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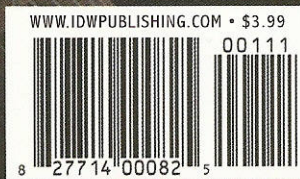
DOCTOR • WHO

ROOM WITH A DÉJÀ VIEW



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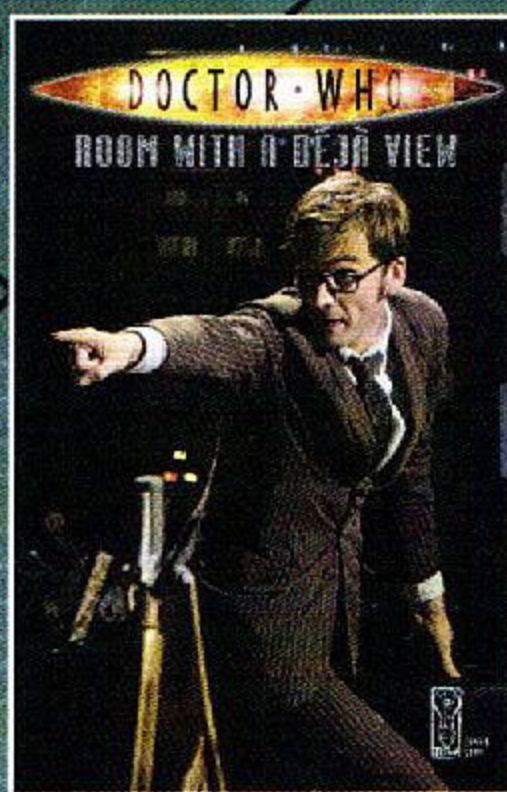
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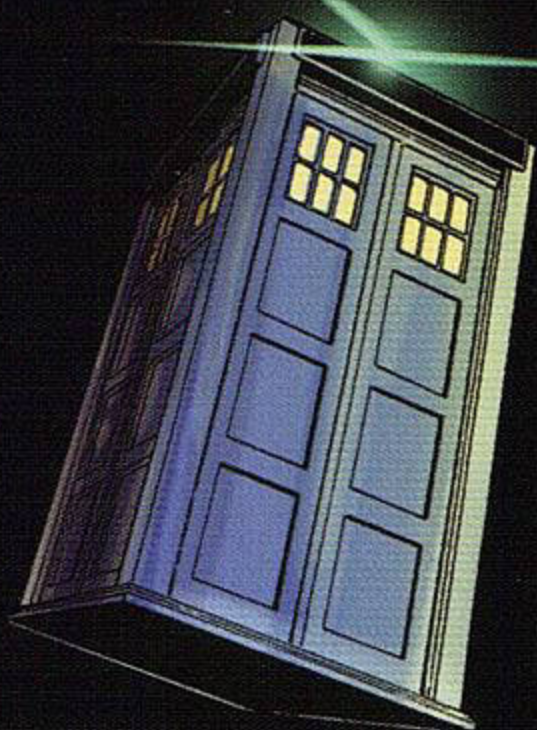
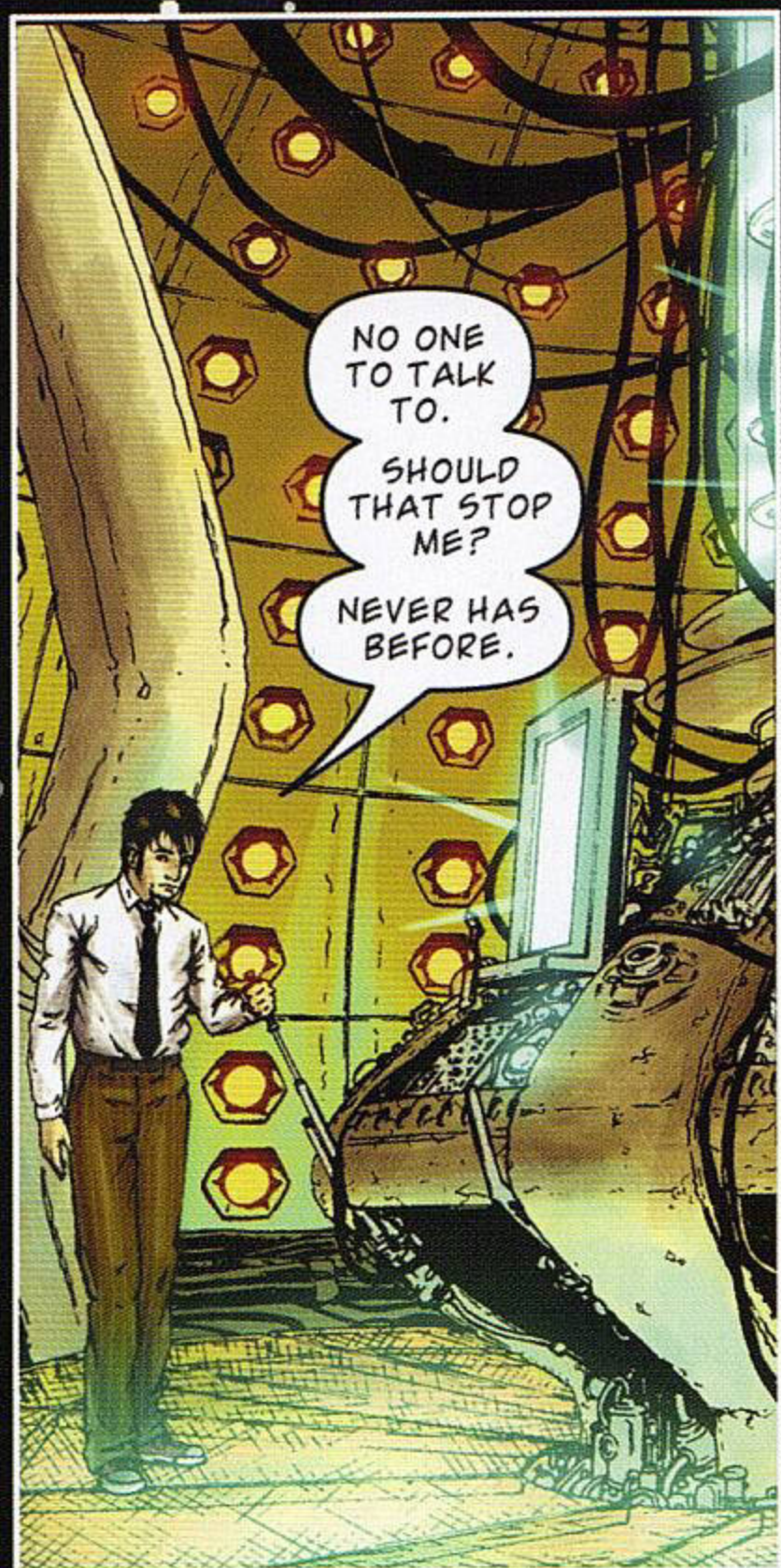
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...I NEED TO
BE ALONE...

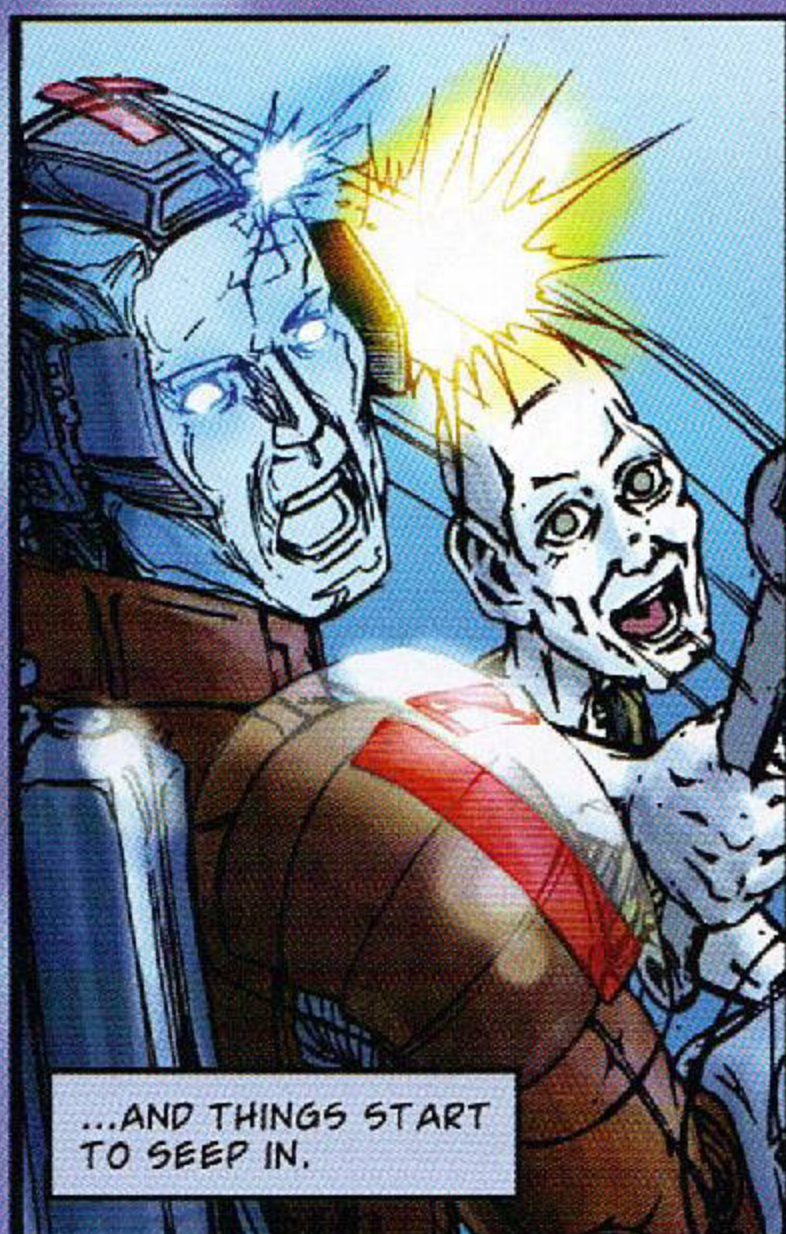
ROOM WITH A DÉJÀ VIEW

WARNING: PARTS OF THIS COMIC MAY
READ BETTER BACKWARDS RATHER
THAN FORWARDS.

THE DEAD ZONE. THE CLOSEST
A GALAXY GETS TO ABSOLUTE
NOTHINGNESS FOR MILLIONS OF
LIGHT YEARS.

BUT NATURE ABHORS
A VACUUM.

LEAVE IT LONG ENOUGH...

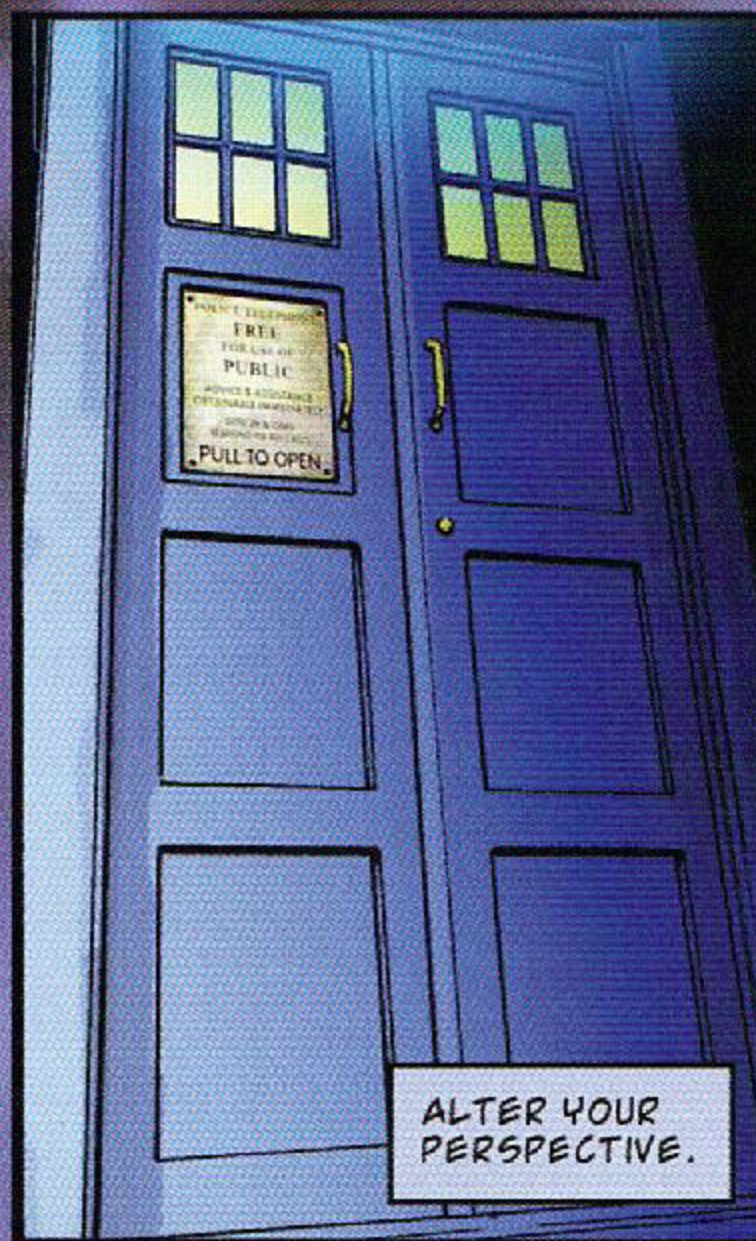
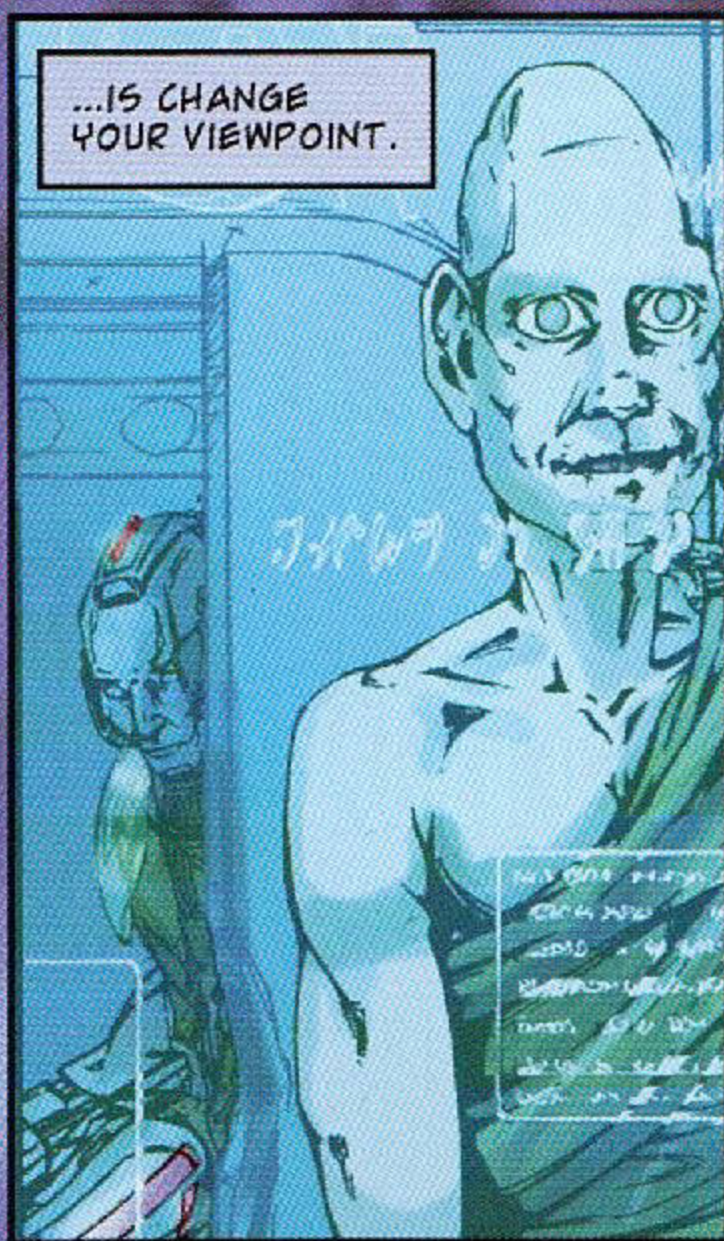
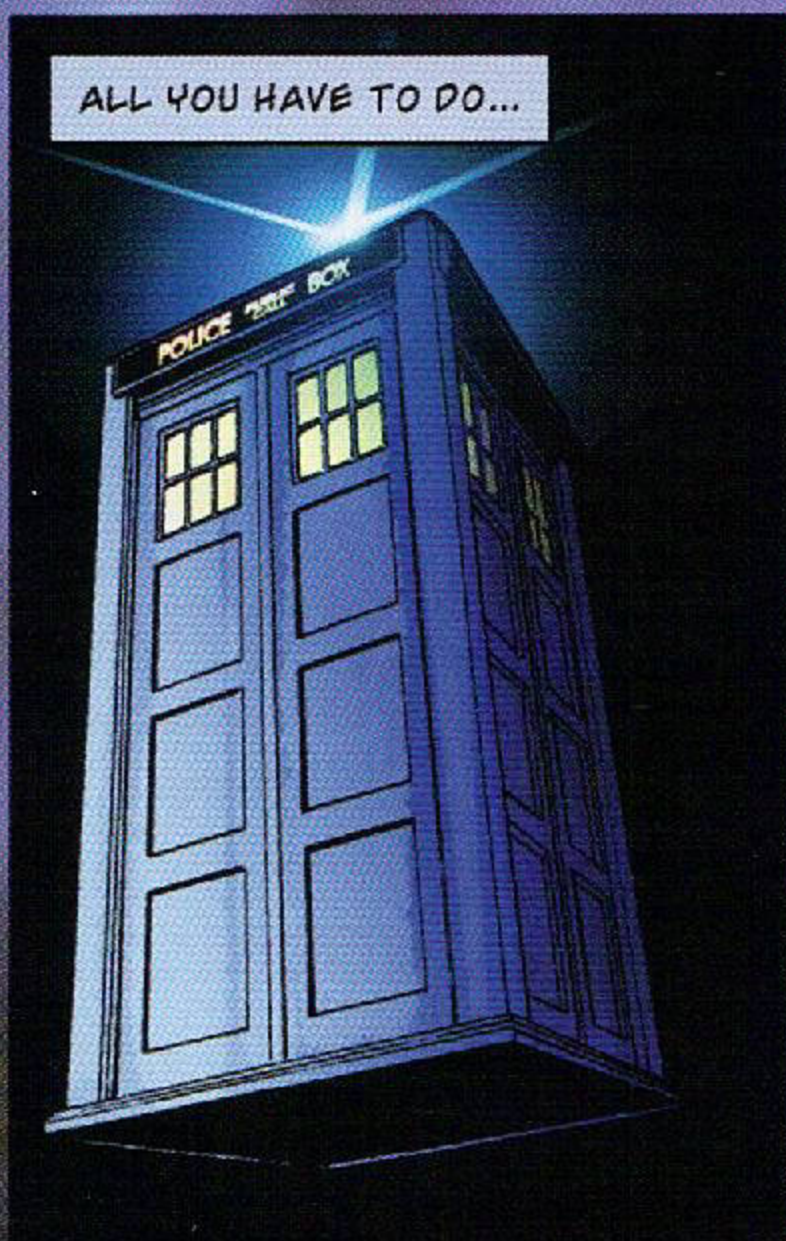


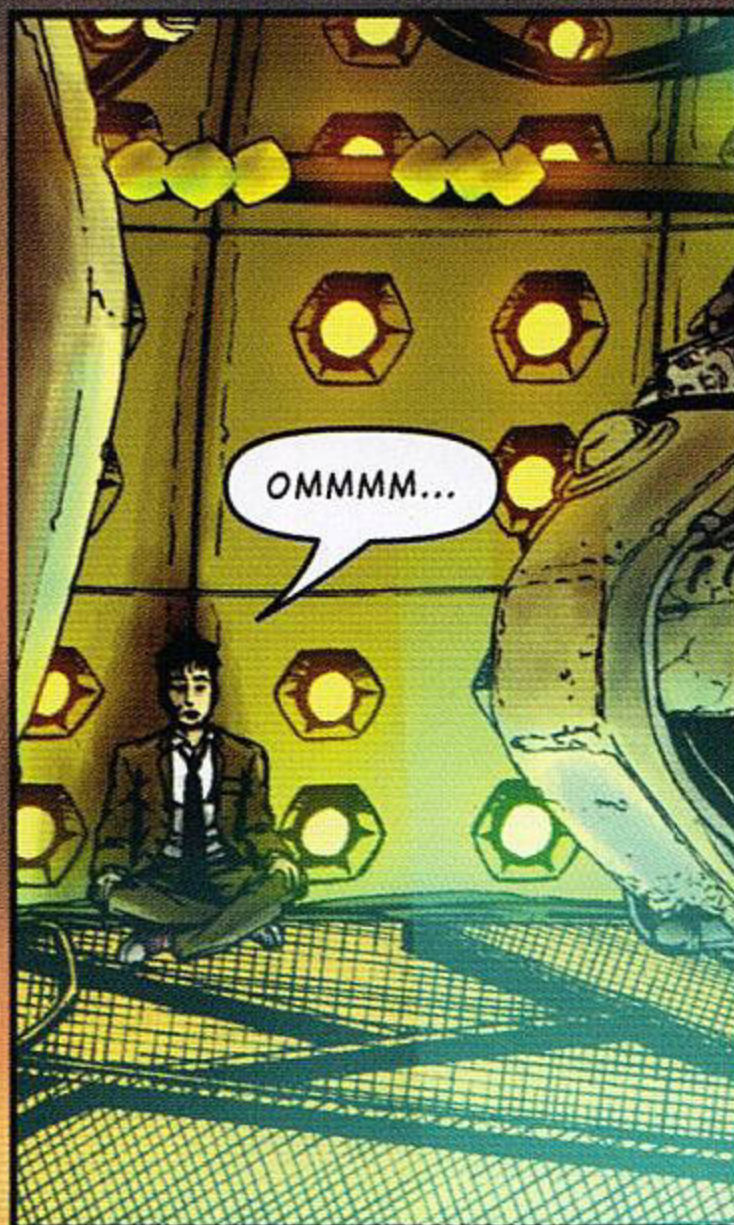
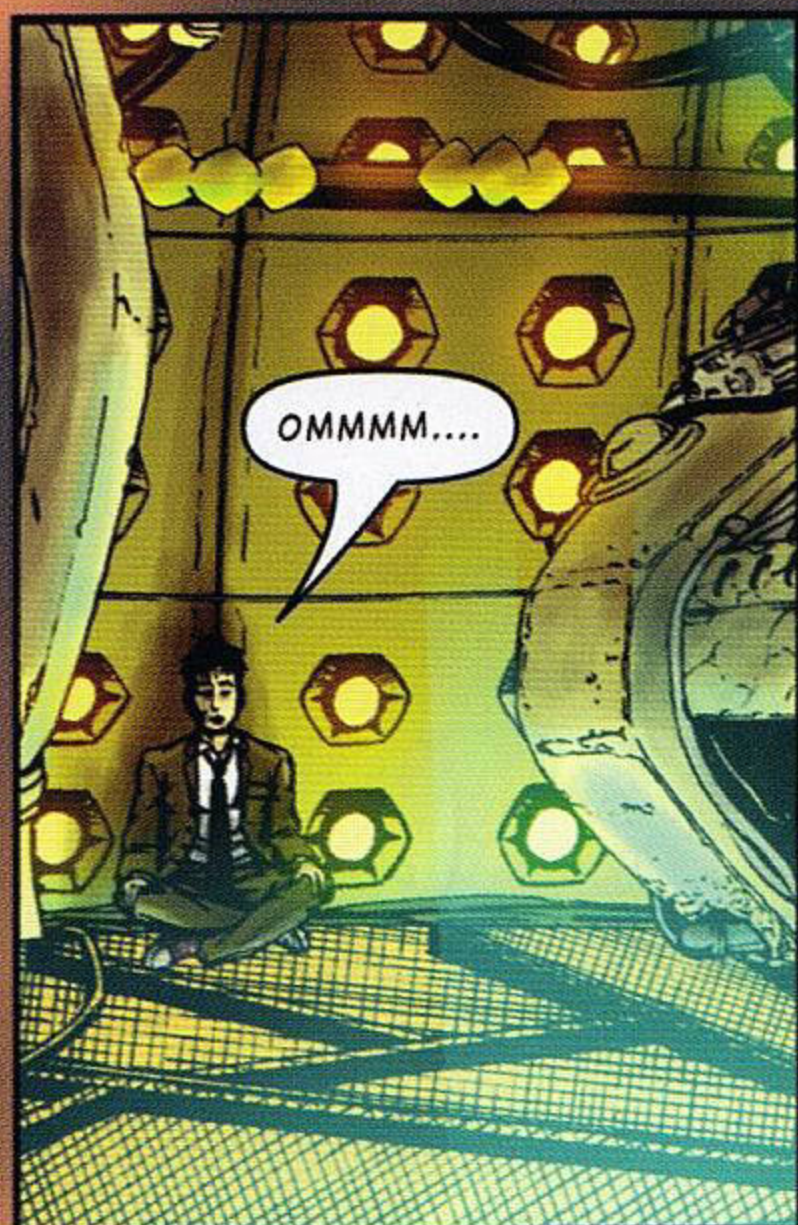
SMALL THINGS.



ALL YOU HAVE TO DO...

...IS CHANGE
YOUR VIEWPOINT.

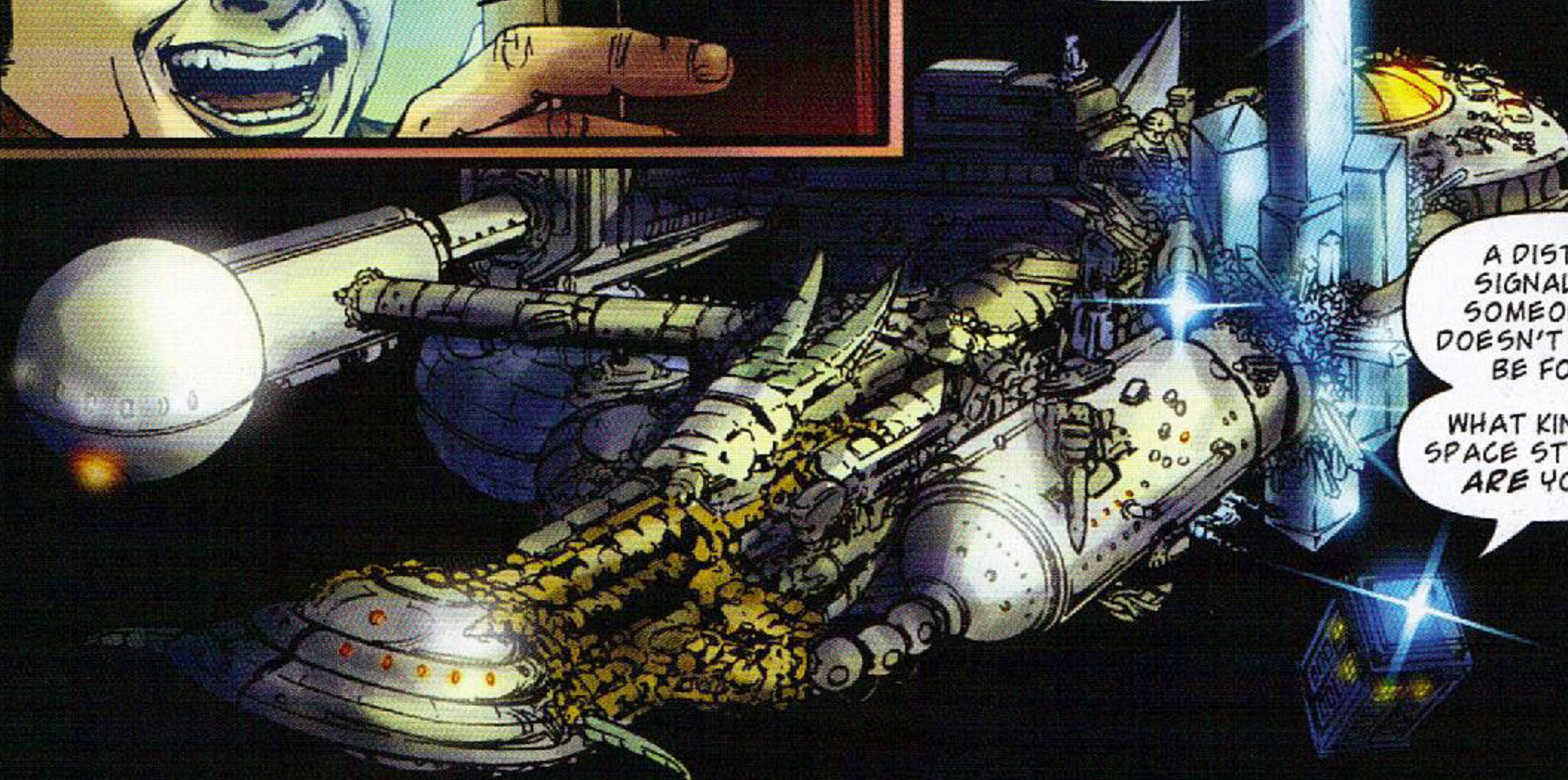






...A WIDE-RANGING
DISTRESS BEACON,
FLUCTUATING DIRECTIONAL
SPREAD... OH... JUST
LOOK AT YOU...

...A HUNDRED
MILLION LIGHT YEARS
OF NOTHINGNESS... AND
ONLY YOU AND ME TO
APPRECIATE IT.



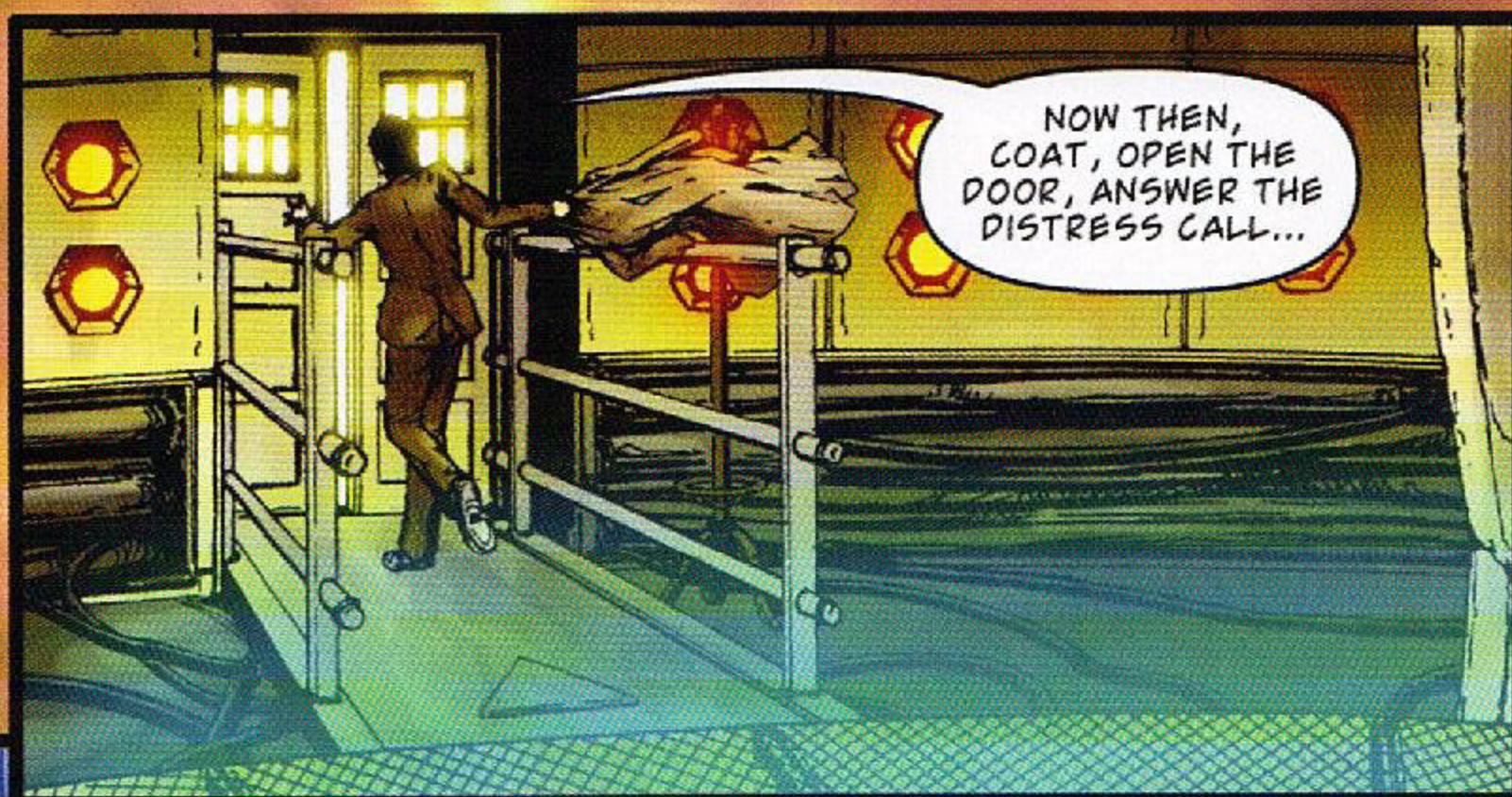
A DISTRESS
SIGNAL FROM
SOMEONE WHO
DOESN'T WANT TO
BE FOUND?

WHAT KIND OF
SPACE STATION
ARE YOU?



LET'S
FIND
OUT!

VWOP
VWOP



NOW THEN,
COAT, OPEN THE
DOOR, ANSWER THE
DISTRESS CALL...



...AND HIT THE
USUAL WELCOMING
COMMITTEE.

ISOLATE THE
INTRUDER!



AK... NORMALLY...
NORMALLY I'M JUST
ARRESTED...

GAG HIM!

G0000SHHH



HOLD...
HOLD HIM
DOWN... WHAT
IS HE?



CLEAN. ONE
HUNDRED PERCENT
INFECTION FREE.
REMARKABLE.

WHAT ARE
YOU?



TIME LORD.
I'M CALLED
THE DOCTOR.
YOURSELF?

GAH!



AND YOU'RE...
BLIMEY, ARE YOU
A GASBAG FROM
GALLUBITAS
XENAX?

INSPECTOR...
INSPECTOR
MOZZ...

KSSSHHHH

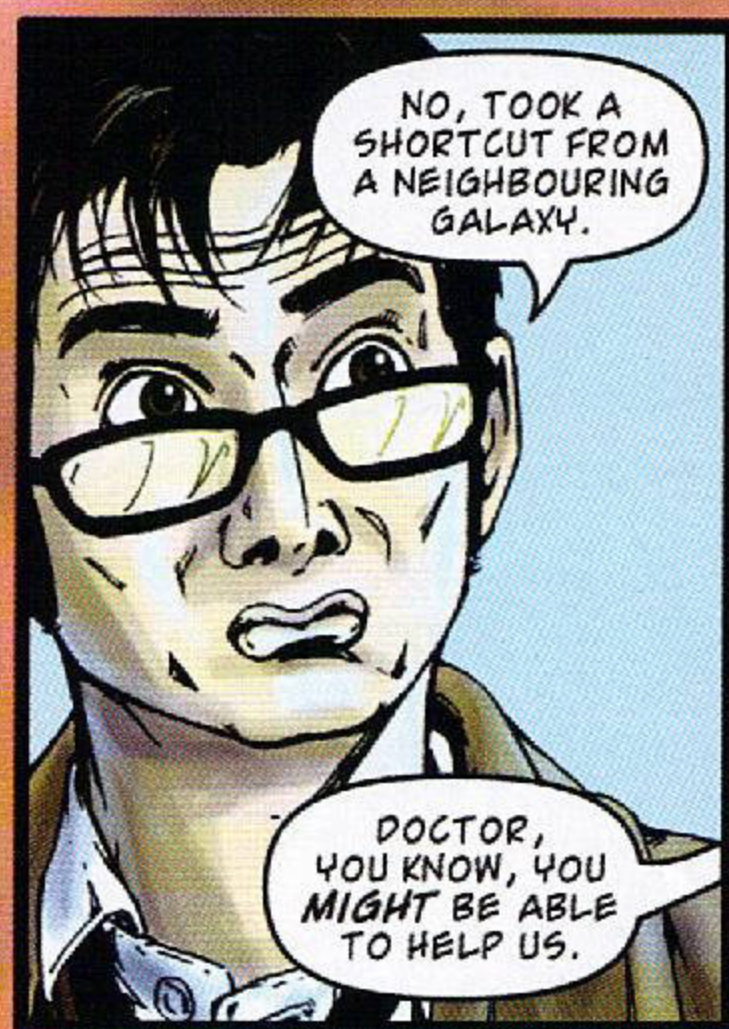


INSPECTOR, EH?
BUT YOU'RE... WELL,
YOU'RE FROM THIS
GALAXY BUT ONLY
JUST.

TIME LORD?
THERE ARE
LEGENDS.

ALL TRUE.
AND THE ONES
THAT WEREN'T, WE
PROBABLY JUST
WENT BACK AND
MADE HAPPEN
ANYWAY.

MOZZ!





THIS IS
THE GREAT
REFUGE.

WHEN THE PLAGUE
STRUCK, DESPERATE
SURVIVORS FROM ALL AROUND
THE DEAD ZONE GATHERED HERE
AND BUILT THIS PLACE FROM THE
SHELLS OF THEIR ESCAPE
CRAFT. IT TOOK HUNDREDS
OF YEARS JUST TO FIND
EACH OTHER.

MOBILE
PHONES NOT
WORKING
THEN?



YOU
LAUGH...

NO, IT'S JUST...
HANG ON, THERE'S
NO RECEPTION. I GET
RECEPTION EVERYWHERE,
IT'S ONE OF MY GIFTS. HOW
AM I GOING TO ORGANISE
A FLASHMOB NOW?



DOCTOR!

DO YOU NOT
UNDERSTAND?

SMACK

CLEARLY I
DON'T. THE PLAGUE
AGAIN?



DEVASTATING...

BOOM

BAM

THOUSANDS
OF SPECIES,
TRILLIONS OF
LIFEFORMS...
WIPED OUT.



AIRBORNE?
SPACE-BORNE?

CONTACT-
BORN. FACE TO
FACE, THEN EVEN
ELECTRONIC
COMMUNICATION.
INFECTED
BROADCASTS—

A
COMMUNICATIVE
DISEASE.



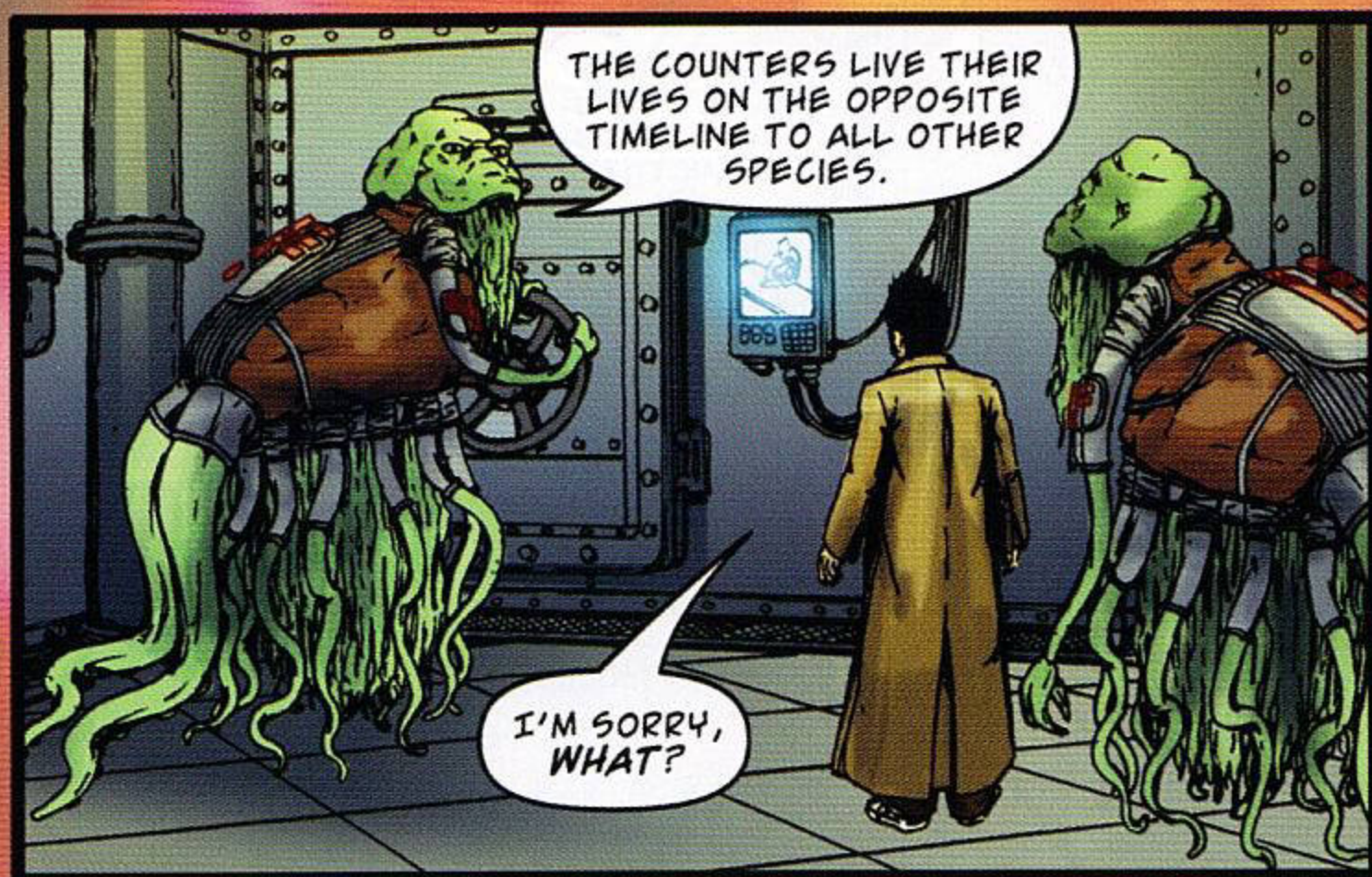


YOU ARE A TIME LORD.

COUNT THE HEARTS.

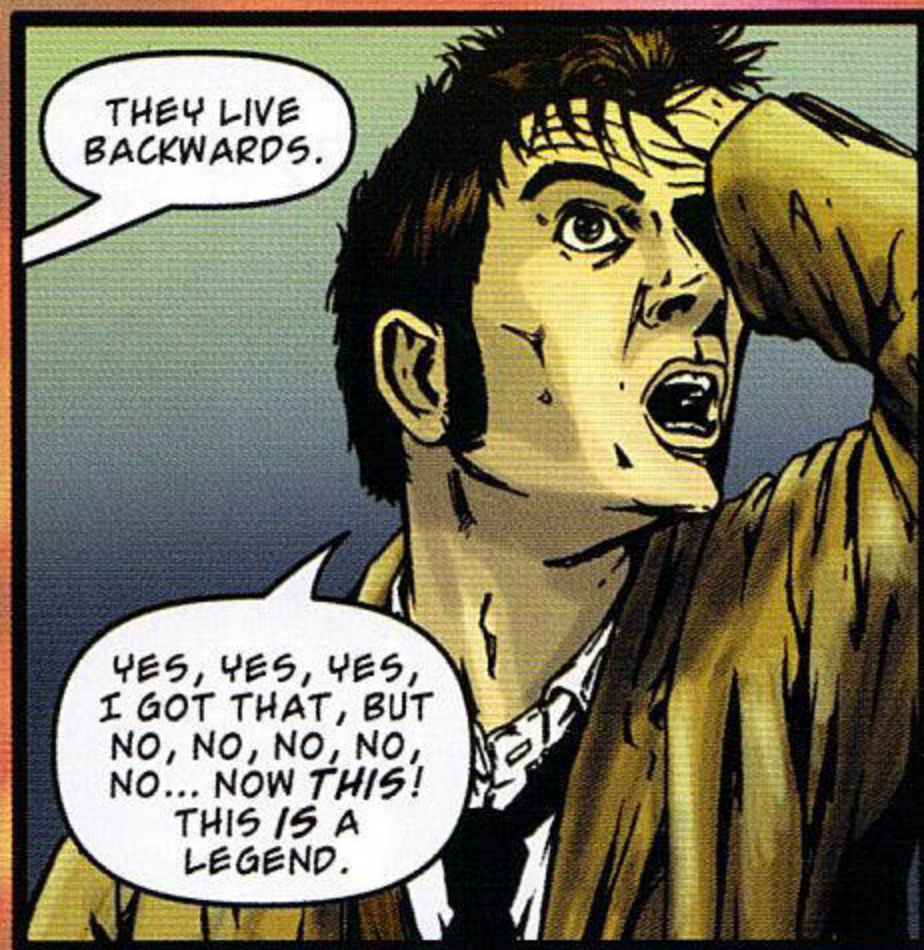
TX IS A MEMBER OF THE COUNTER FAMILY.

PRESUMABLY THIS MEANS HE DOESN'T WORK IN THE LOCAL SHOP.



THE COUNTERS LIVE THEIR LIVES ON THE OPPOSITE TIMELINE TO ALL OTHER SPECIES.

I'M SORRY, WHAT?



THEY LIVE BACKWARDS.

YES, YES, YES, I GOT THAT, BUT NO, NO, NO, NO, NO... NOW THIS! THIS IS A LEGEND.



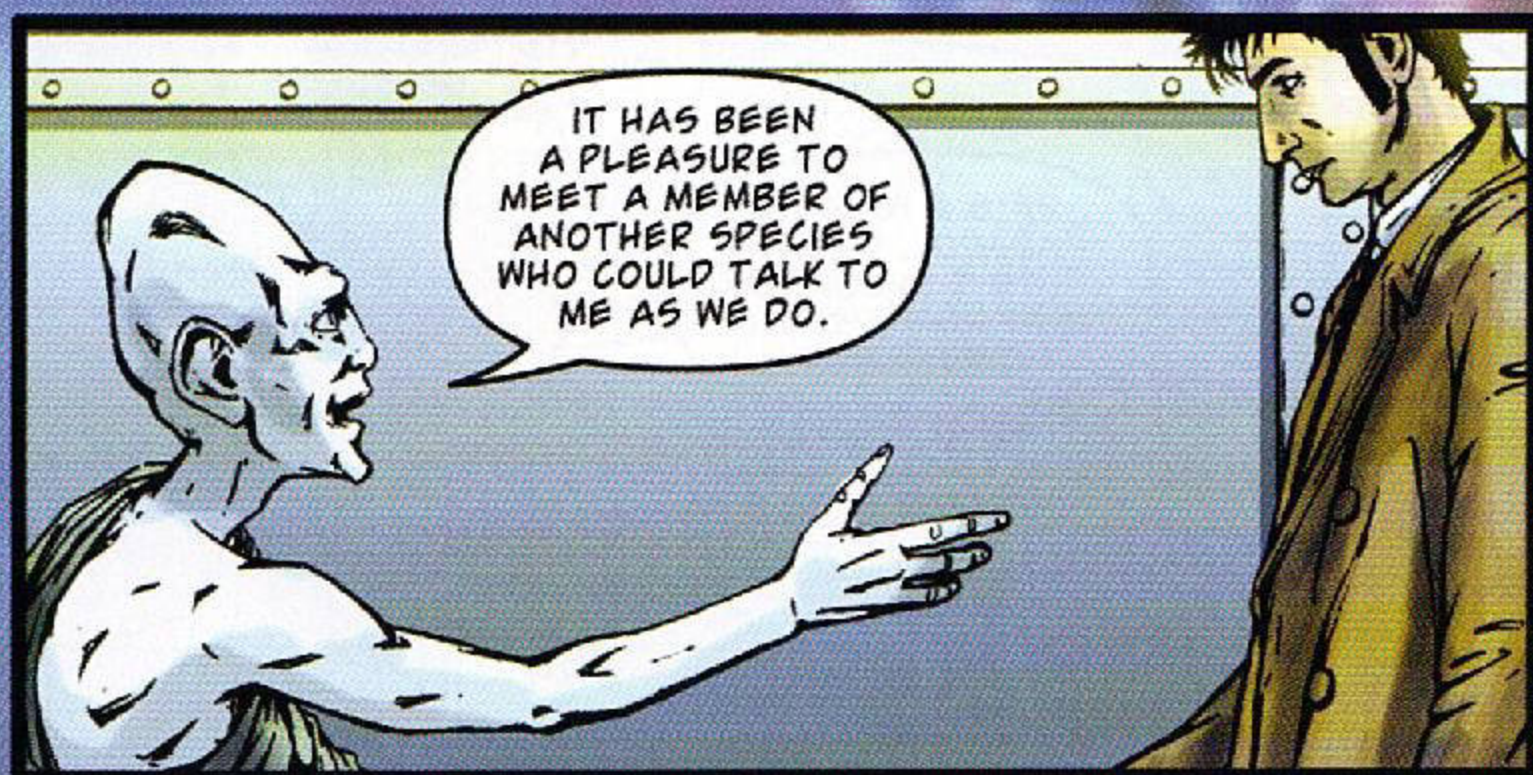
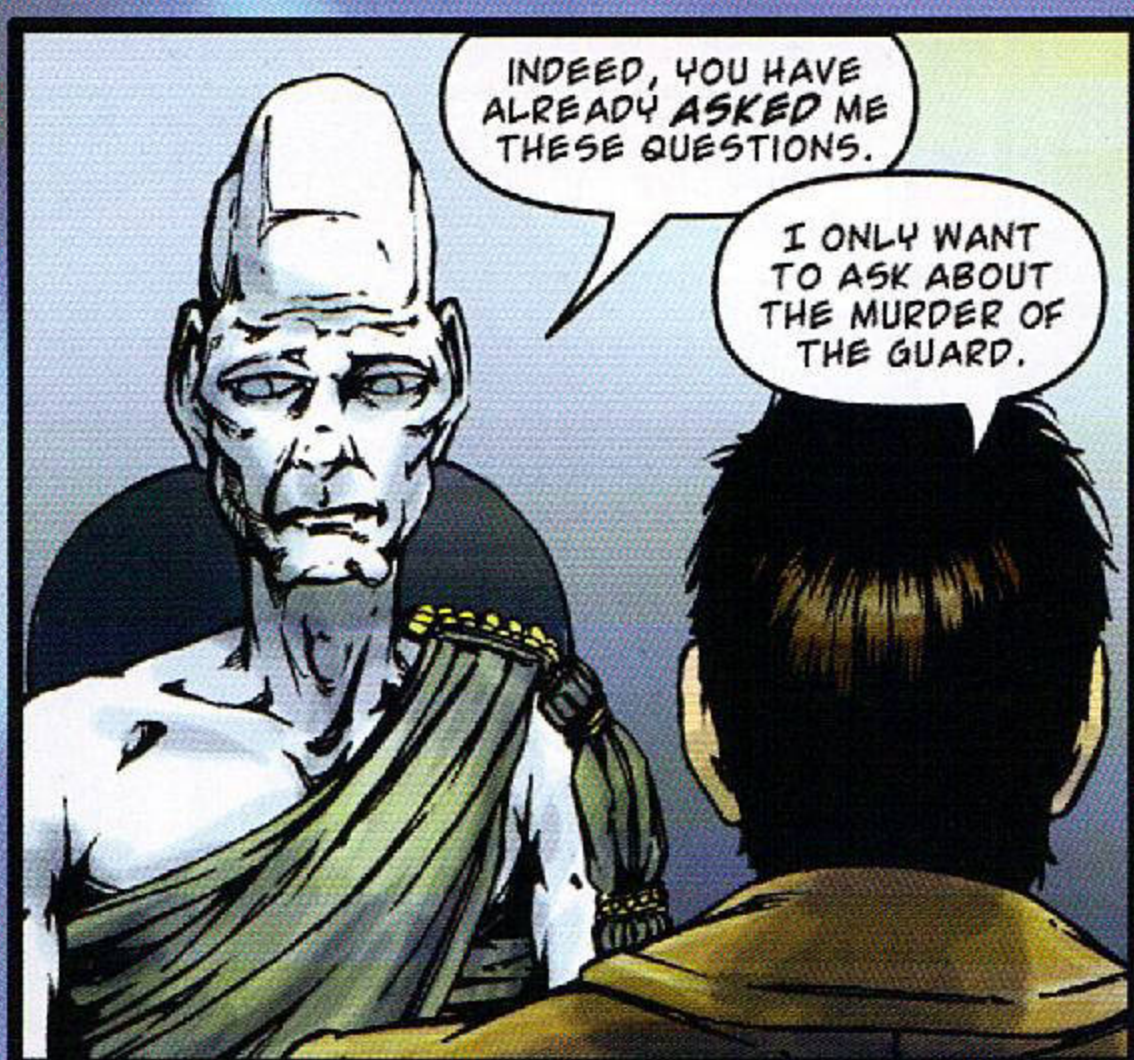
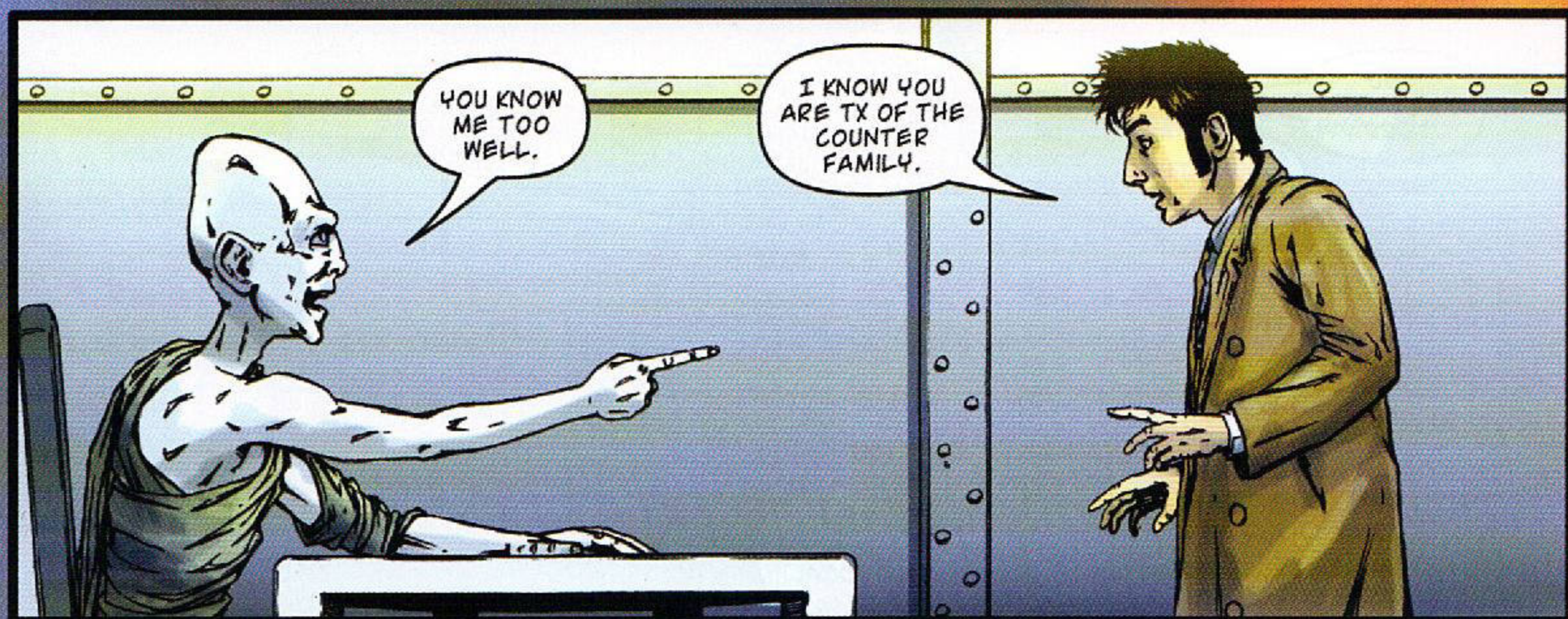
WE KNOW HE DID IT. WE JUST DON'T KNOW WHY. WE JUST CAN'T... TALK TO HIM. OUR TRANSLATION PATCHES JUST... GIVE UP.

AND THEN HE CALLS MOZZ HIS MOTHER. UNSETTLING.

HE'S A WALKING PARADOX, I'M NOT SURE I SHOULD BE NEAR HIM, I'VE GOT NO BUSINESS...

GOODBYE, DOCTOR, OLD FRIEND.

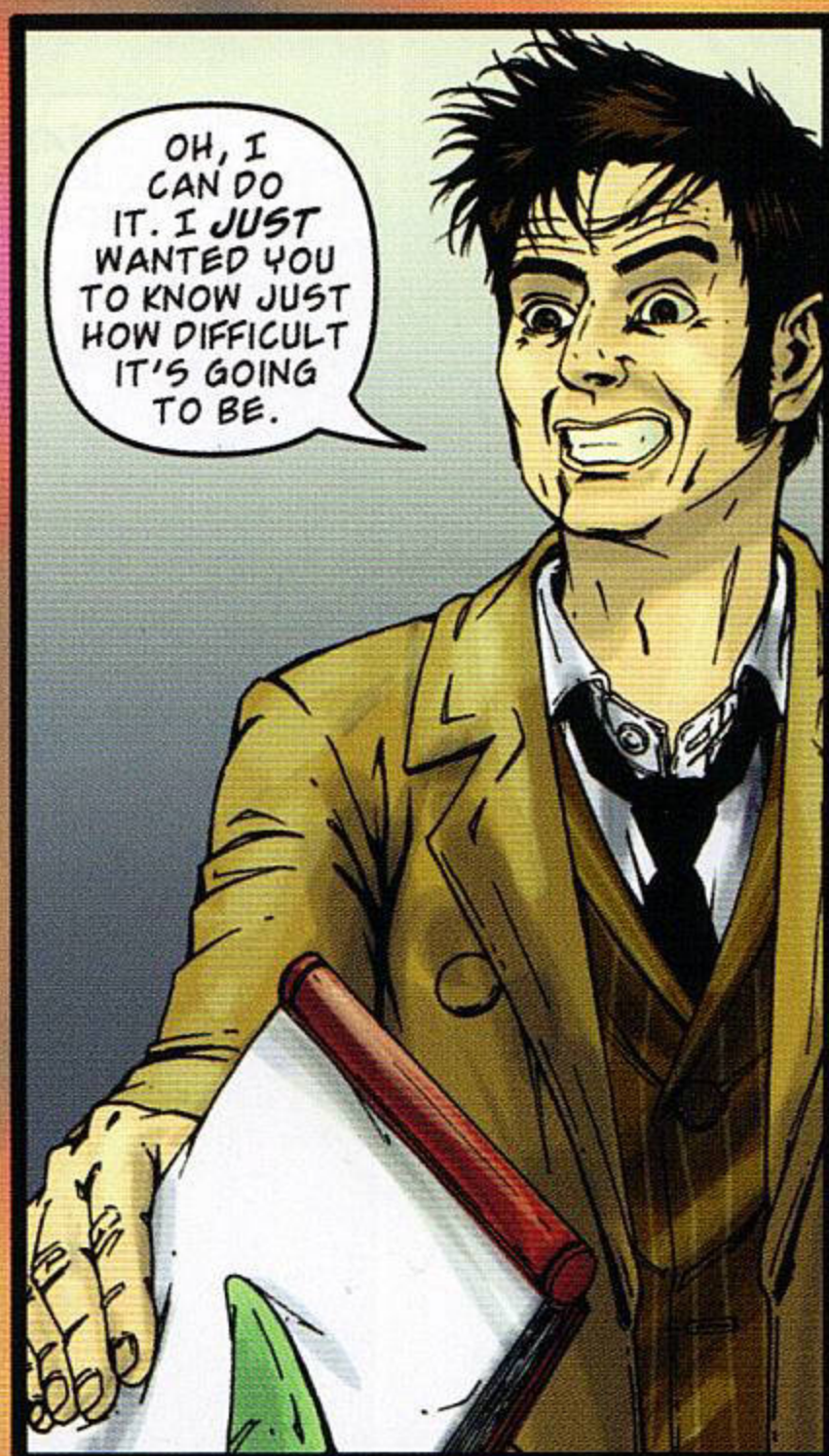
OKAY, THAT'S OMINOUS.





OKAY, THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE. NO REALLY. I'M MEANT TO INTERROGATE SOMEONE WHO ANSWERS THE QUESTION I'M ABOUT TO ASK BEFORE I ASK IT.

YOU CAN'T DO IT?



OH, I CAN DO IT. I JUST WANTED YOU TO KNOW JUST HOW DIFFICULT IT'S GOING TO BE.



RIGHT! SECURE THIS ROOM. NO MONITORS. WHAT I AM ABOUT TO DO IS VERY DANGEROUS INDEED. NO PEEKING!



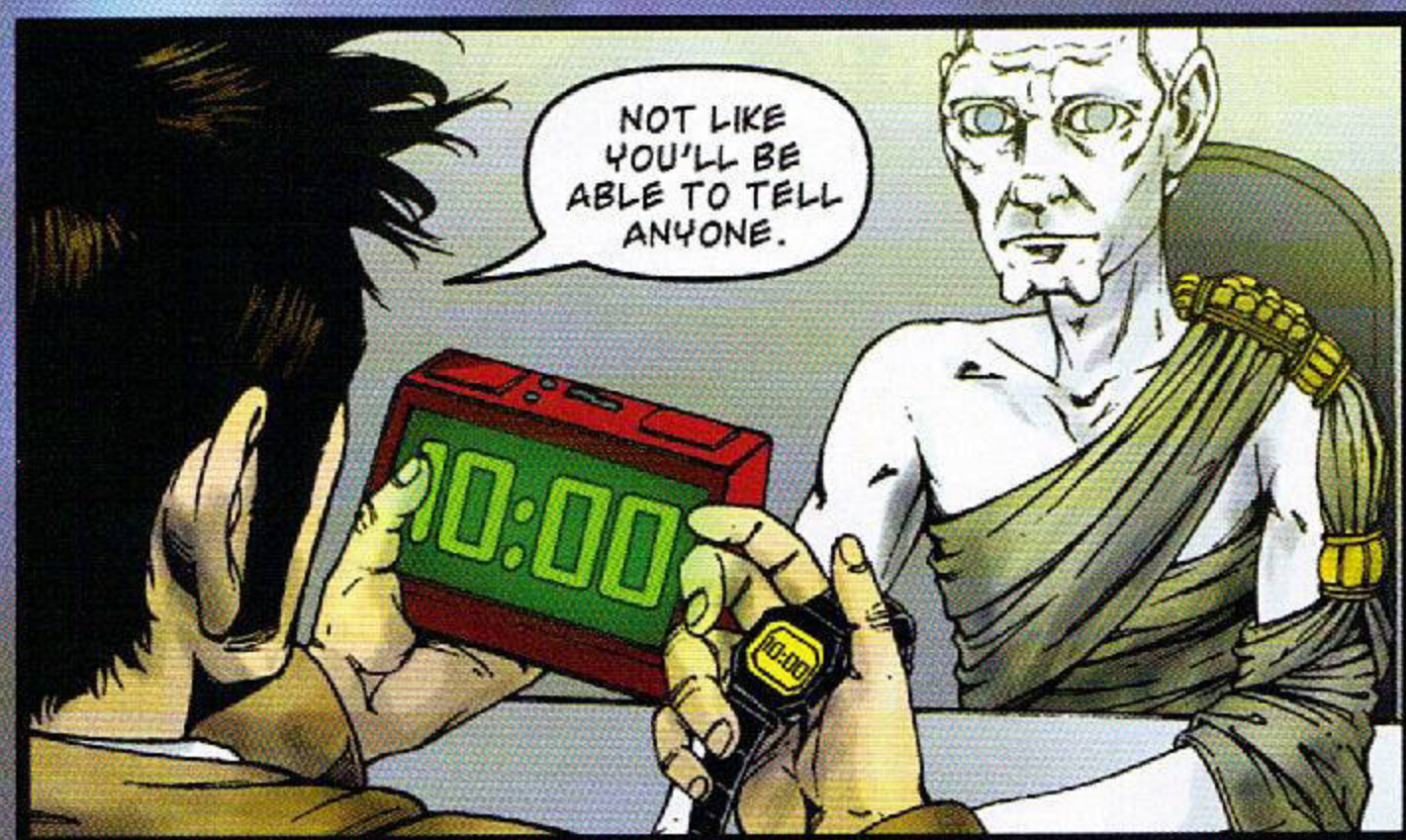
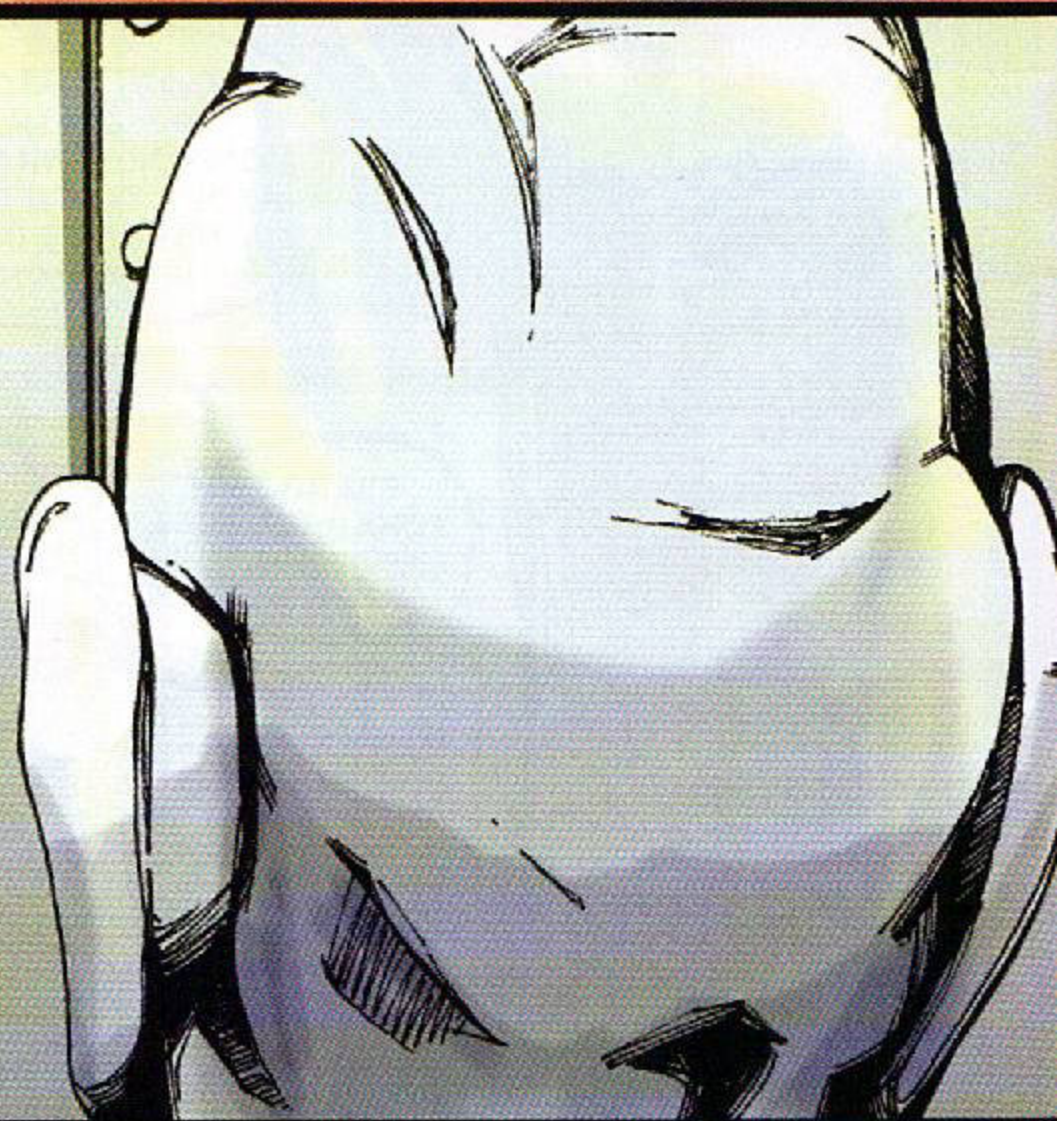
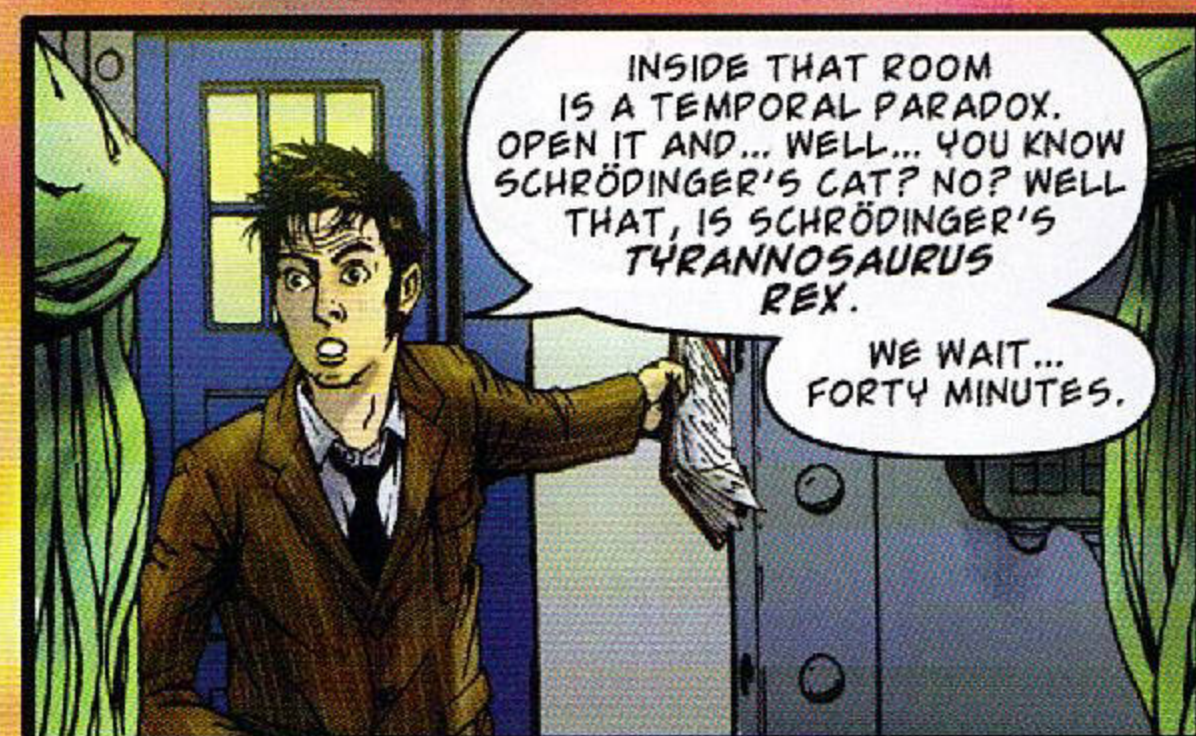
YOU TRUST HIM, DON'T YOU?



HE'S A TIME LORD. I'VE ALWAYS HEARD SUCH WONDERFUL STORIES.

MAYBE THIS IS WHERE WE GET A STORY OF OUR OWN.

VWOP
VWOP





AH, THAT'LL BE MY RIDE. I'M OFF TO START AT THE BEGINNING.

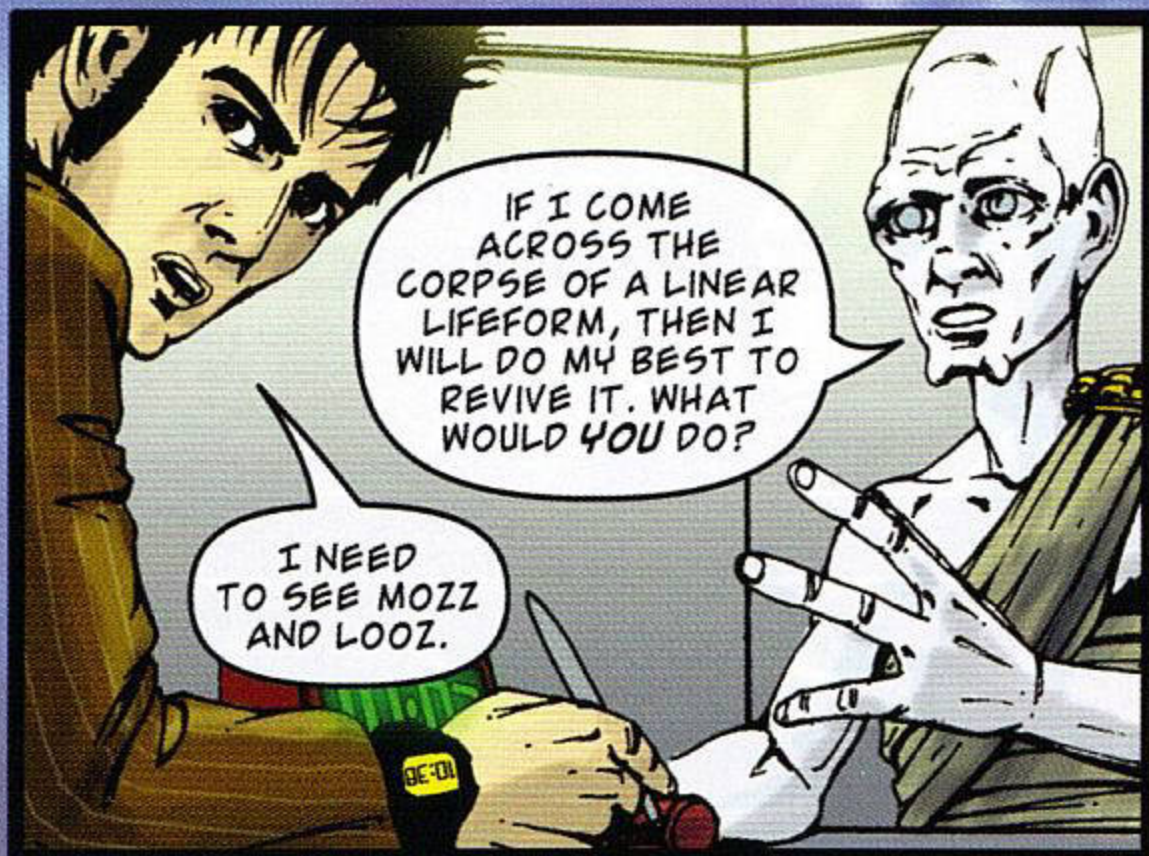


WE HAVE TO STOP MEETING LIKE THIS.



I HAVEN'T STARTED YET. MIND IF I BORROW YOUR TARDIS?

IT'S YOURS. JUST REMEMBER TO PUT IT BACK TOMORROW.



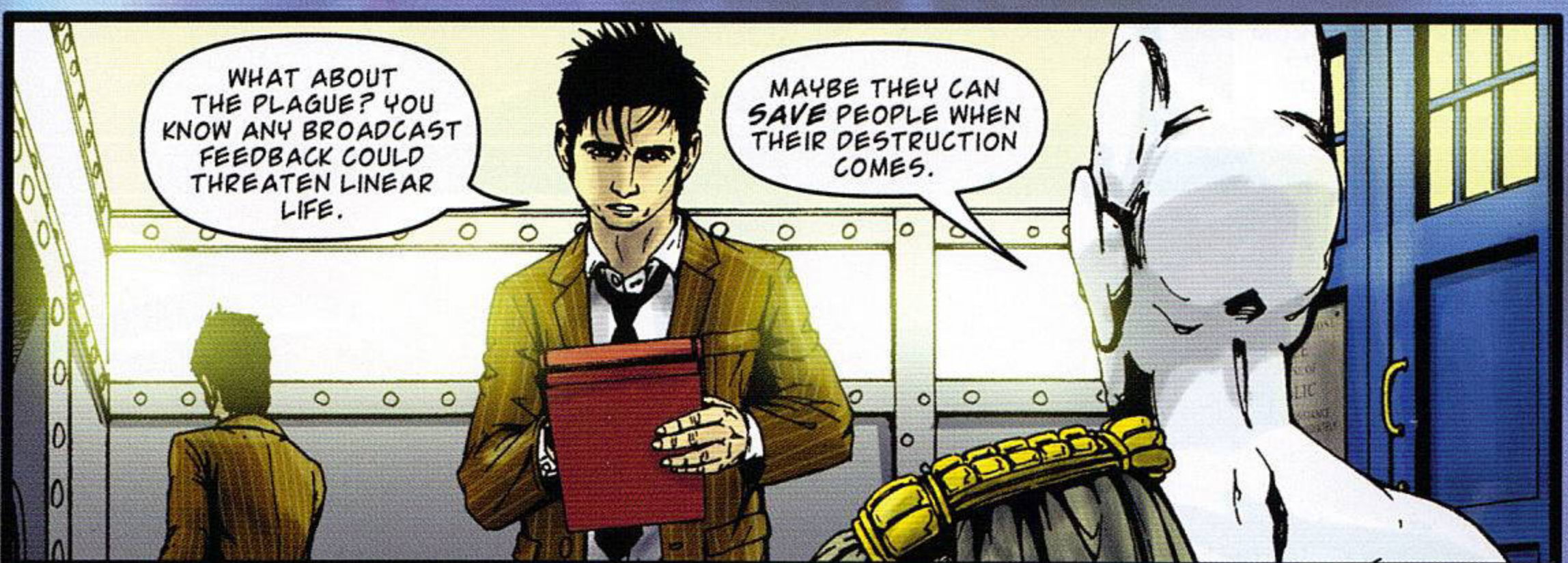
IF I COME ACROSS THE CORPSE OF A LINEAR LIFEFORM, THEN I WILL DO MY BEST TO REVIVE IT. WHAT WOULD YOU DO?

I NEED TO SEE MOZZ AND LOOZ.



AND WHAT ABOUT THE DEAD COMMUNICATIONS GUARD?

I KNOW THAT IT DID NOT. MY FAMILY NEVER ENCOUNTERED THE PLAGUE.



WHAT ABOUT THE PLAGUE? YOU KNOW ANY BROADCAST FEEDBACK COULD THREATEN LINEAR LIFE.

MAYBE THEY CAN SAVE PEOPLE WHEN THEIR DESTRUCTION COMES.



"SOMEONE OTHER THAN YOU WILL HEAR."

"WHEN THE SIGNAL TRAVELS FARTHER, SOMEONE MAY SEND HELP. RESCUE THESE PEOPLE."

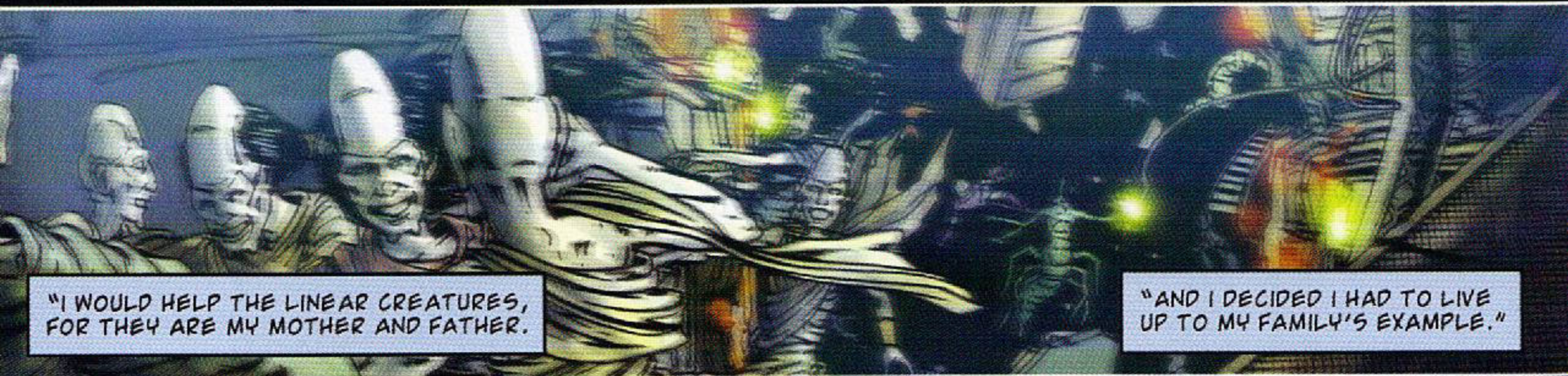
"THE END OF THIS WORLD IS NOT ITS BEGINNING."



"FOR WHAT WE KNOW AS THE GREAT CREATION, THEY WILL SEE AS THE GREAT DESTRUCTION."

"WHICH, TO THESE CREATURES, WILL BE SENDING A DISTRESS CALL."

"I SET OUT TO RECEIVE THE DISTRESS CALL MY FAMILY HAD TOLD ME ABOUT."



"I WOULD HELP THE LINEAR CREATURES, FOR THEY ARE MY MOTHER AND FATHER."

"AND I DECIDED I HAD TO LIVE UP TO MY FAMILY'S EXAMPLE."



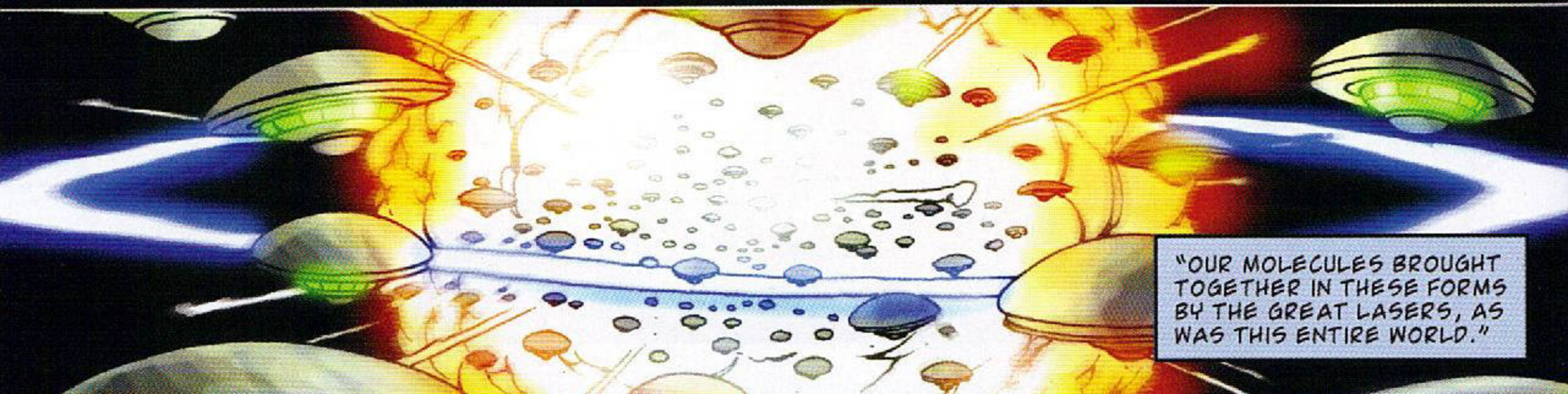
"BUT IN THAT TIME MY PEOPLE TOLD ME THEIR ENTIRE HISTORY."

"OR SO I AM TOLD, I WAS BORN MUCH LATER, A MERE DAY AGO."

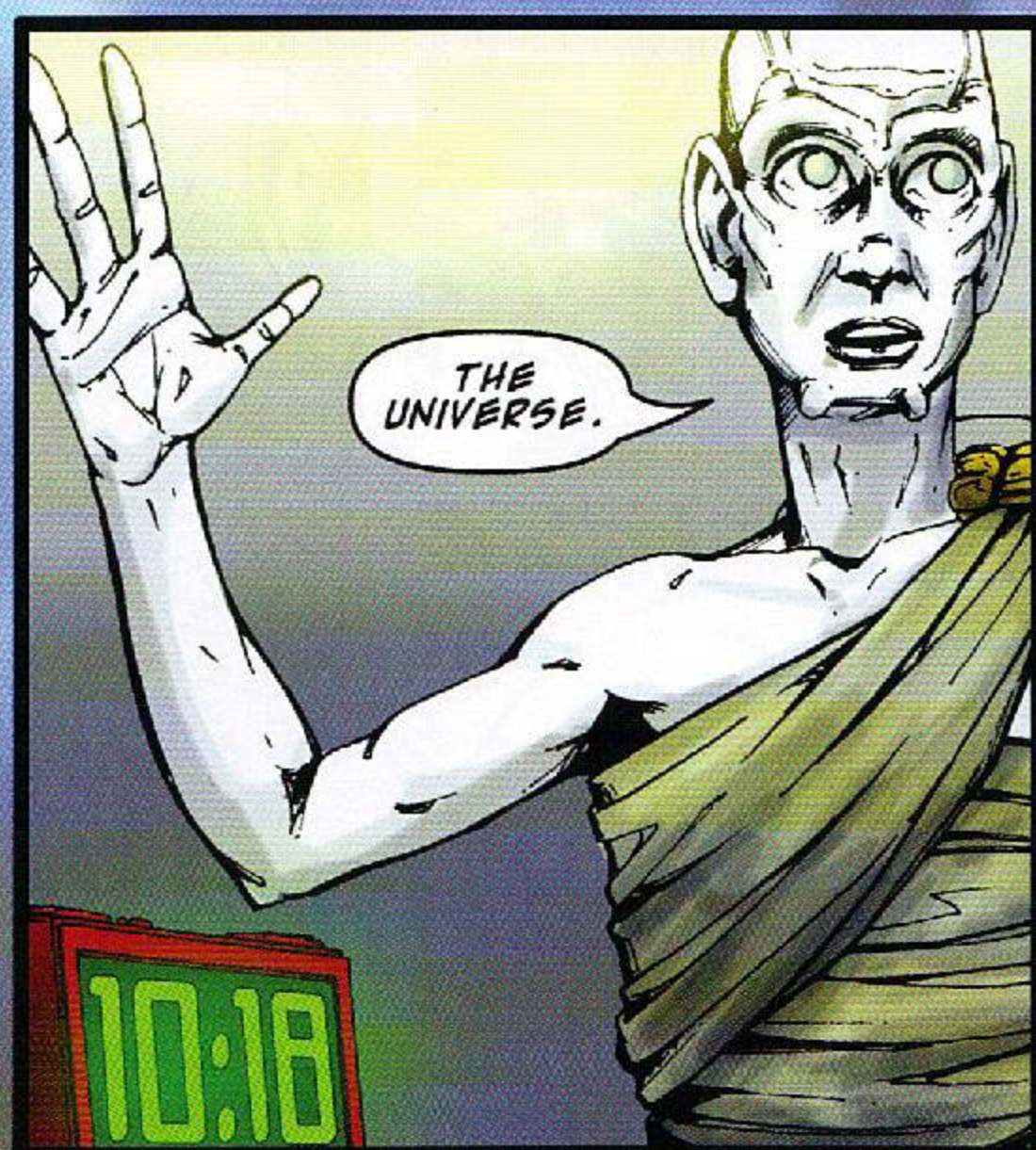
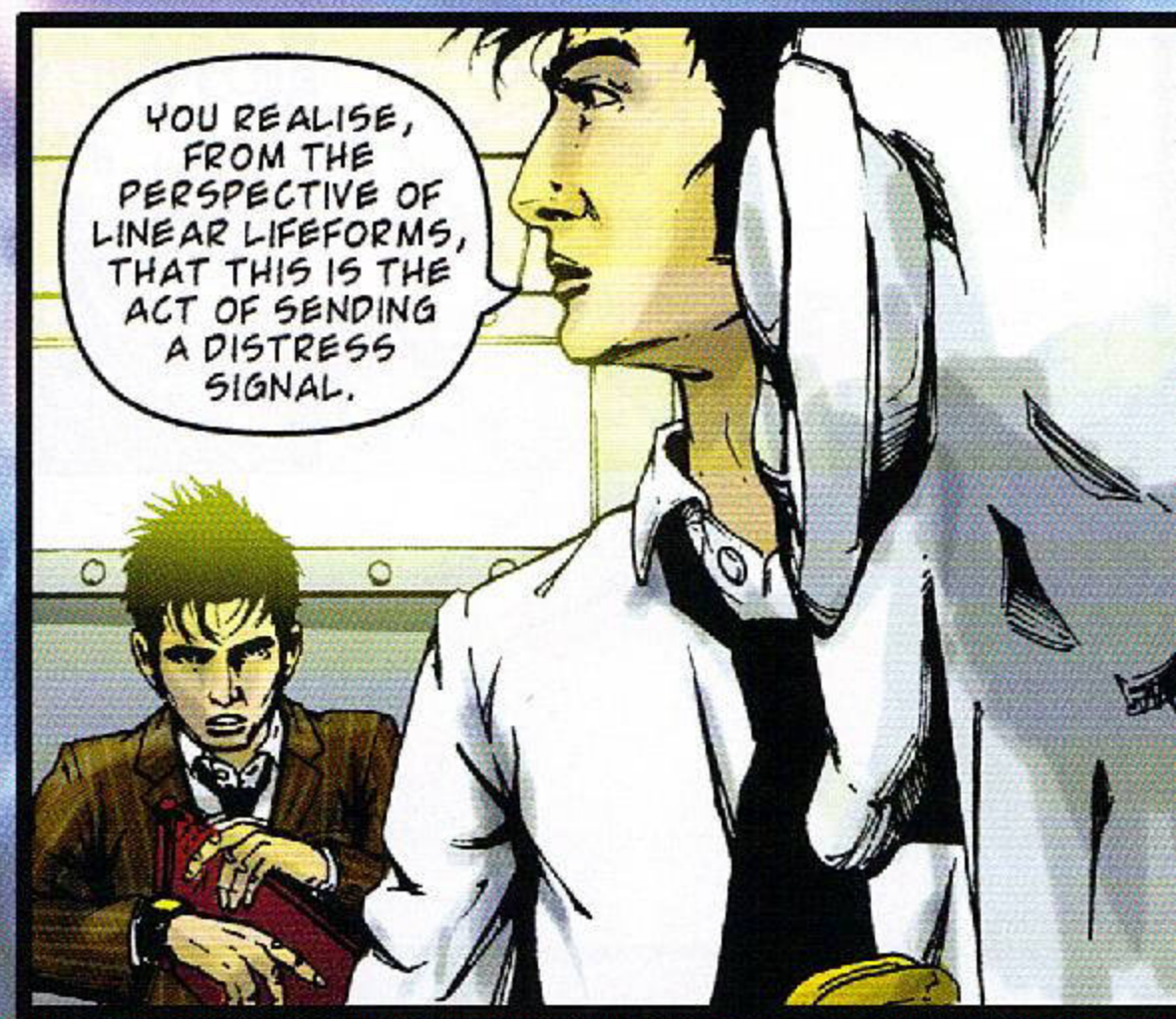
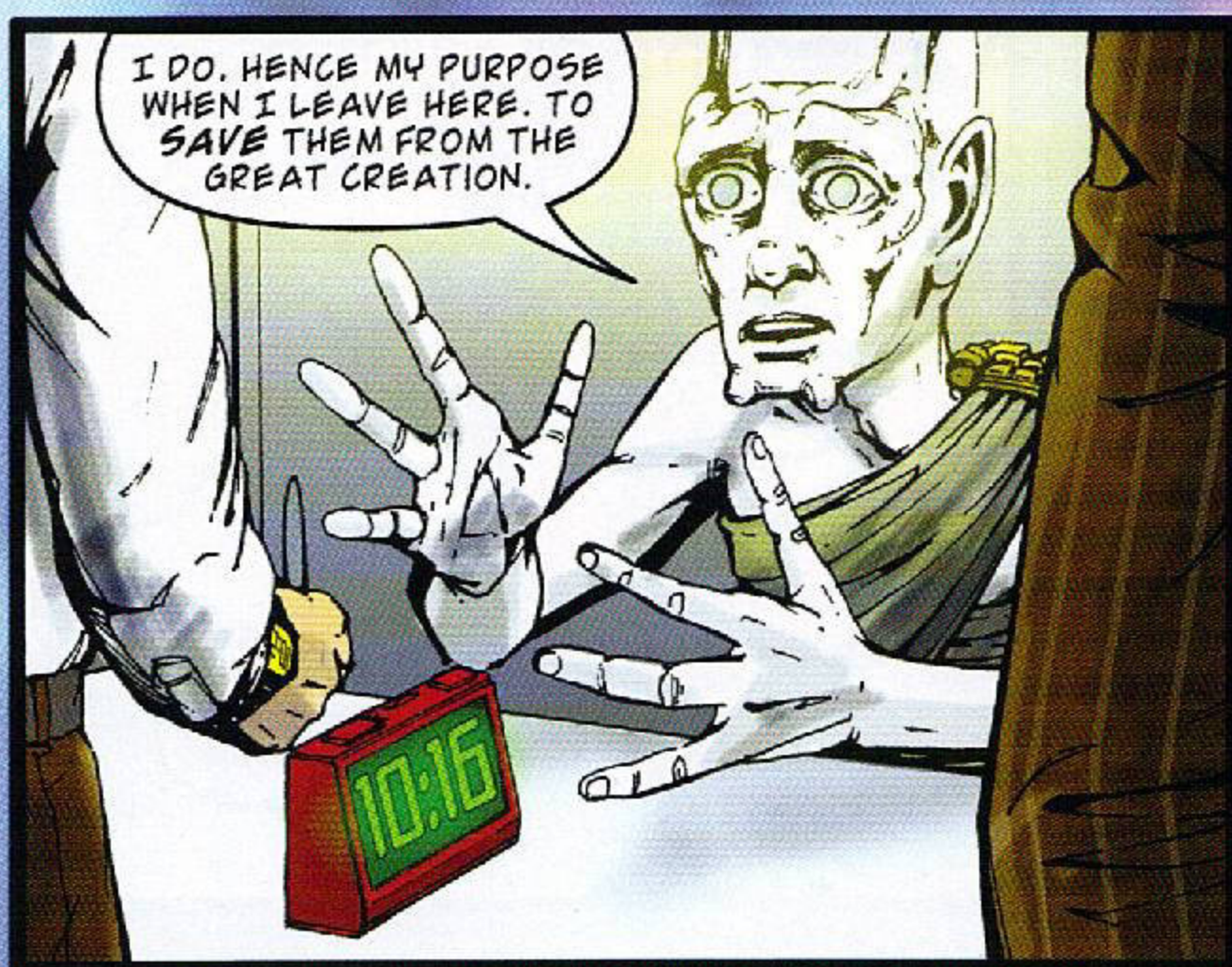
"THE ONLY CREATURES WHO LIVE LIFE IN OUR DIRECTION, WE FOUND EACH OTHER, AS FAMILY."

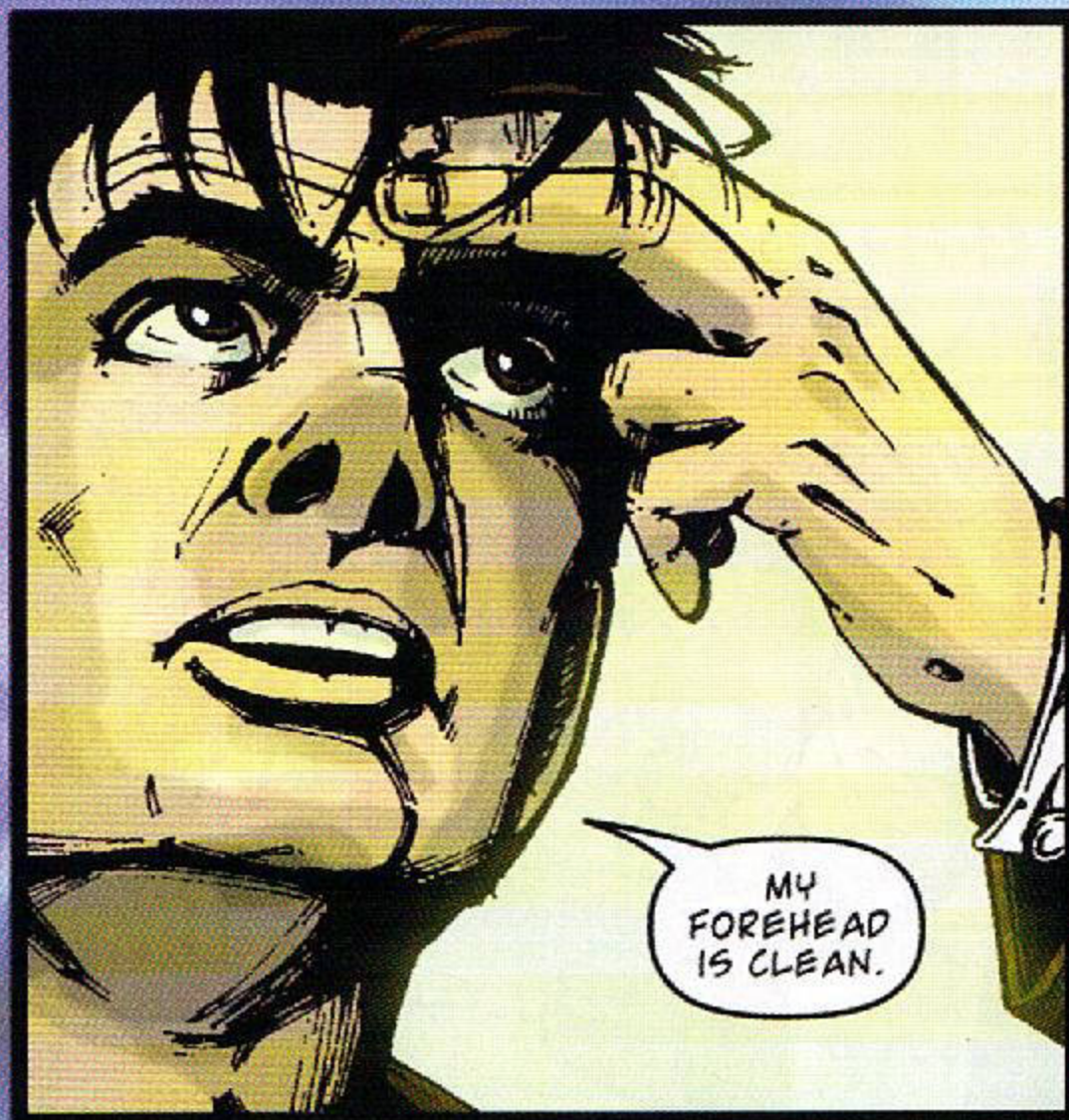
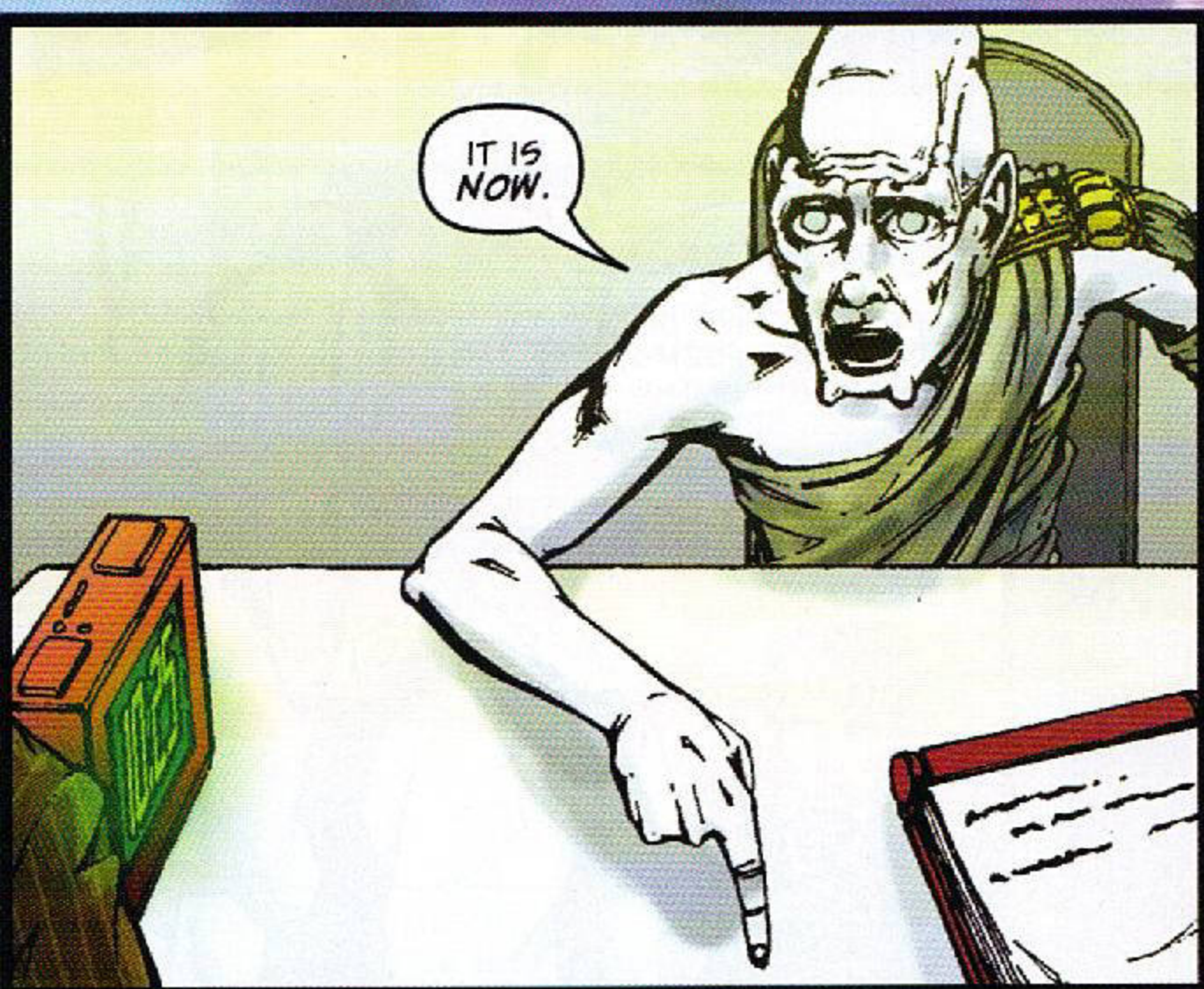
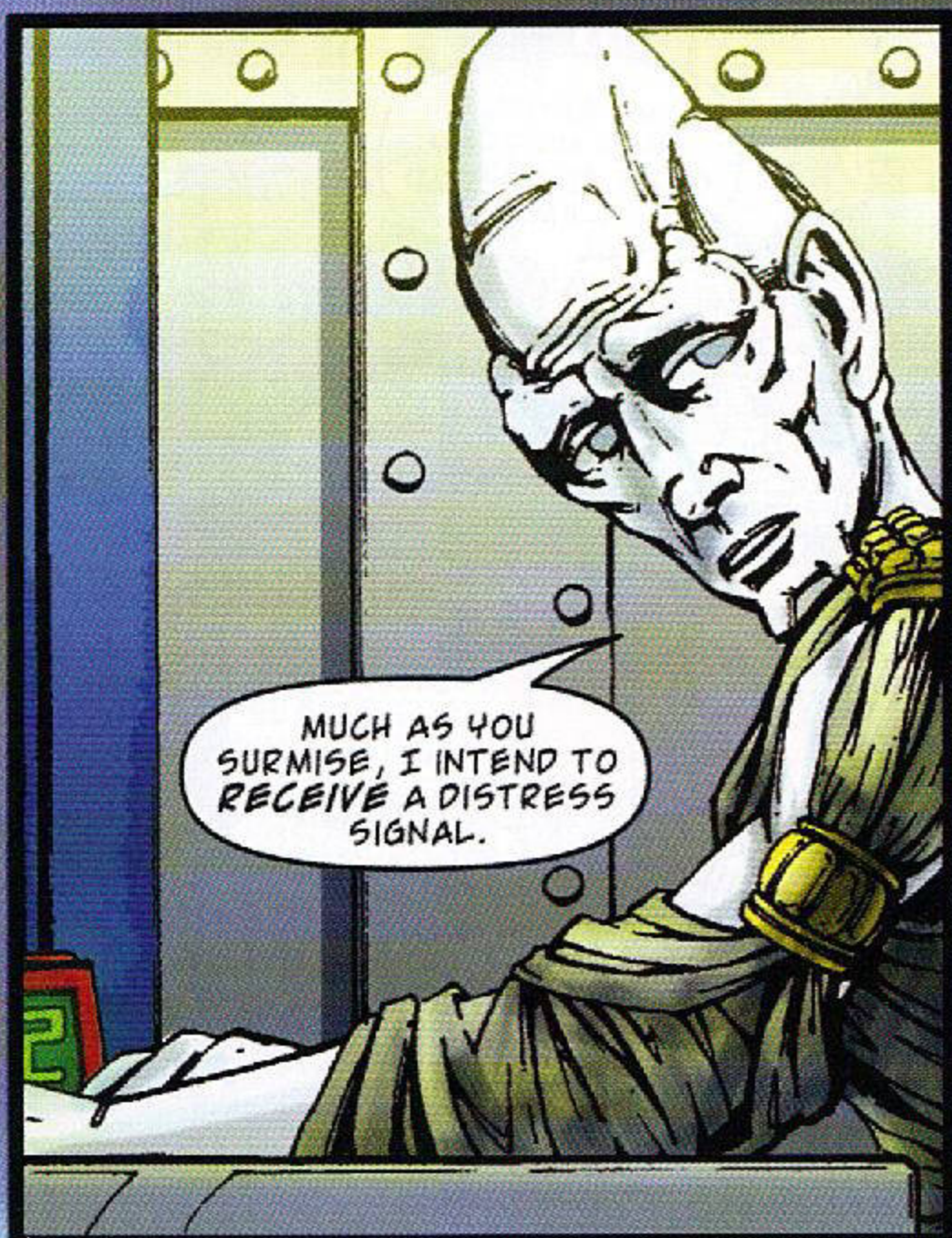


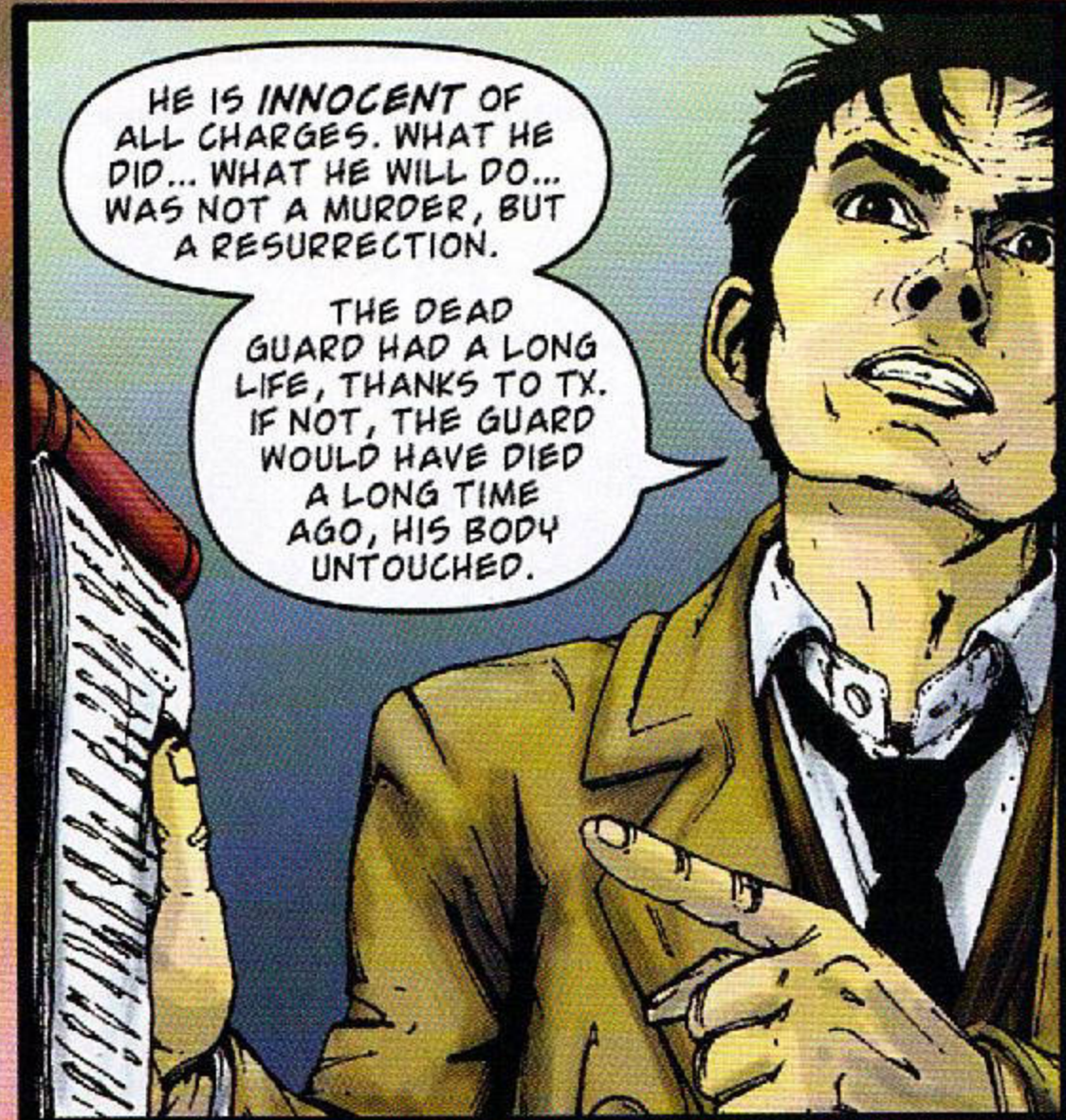
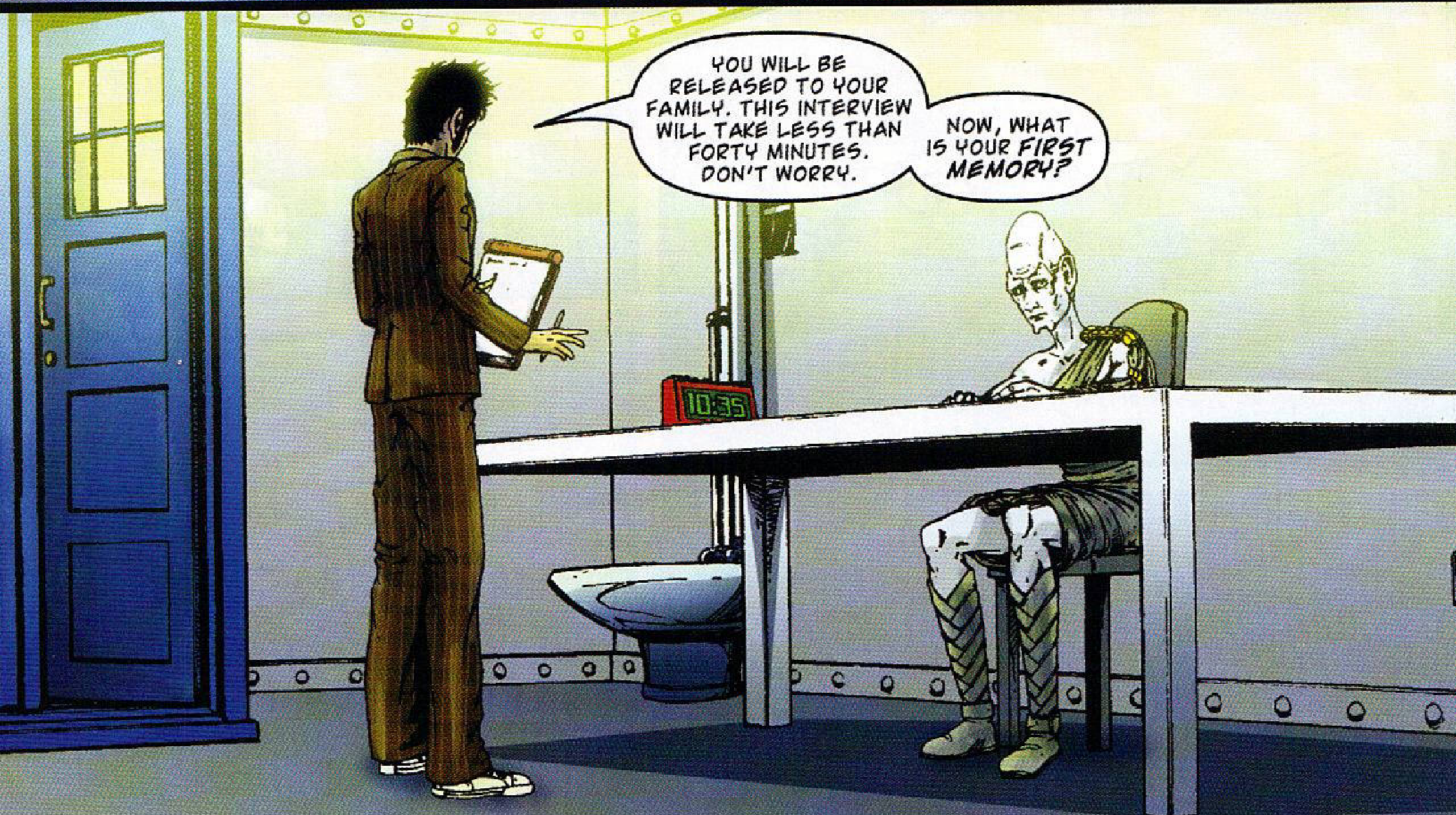
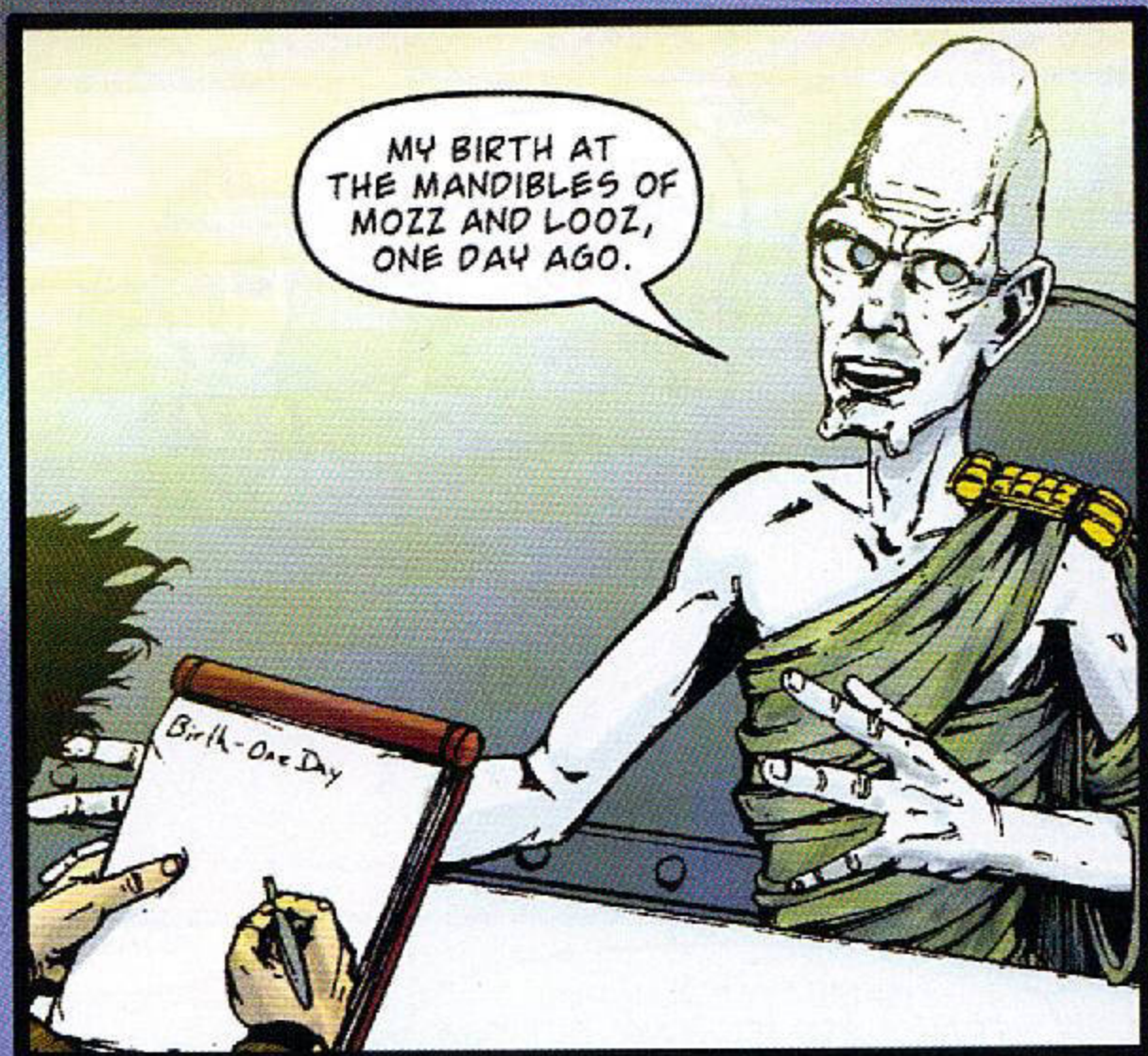
"EACH RAY OF LIGHT FORMED MATTER FROM CHAOS, STRUCTURE FROM DEBRIS, CREATED THIS WHOLE SPACE STATION."



"OUR MOLECULES BROUGHT TOGETHER IN THESE FORMS BY THE GREAT LASERS, AS WAS THIS ENTIRE WORLD."

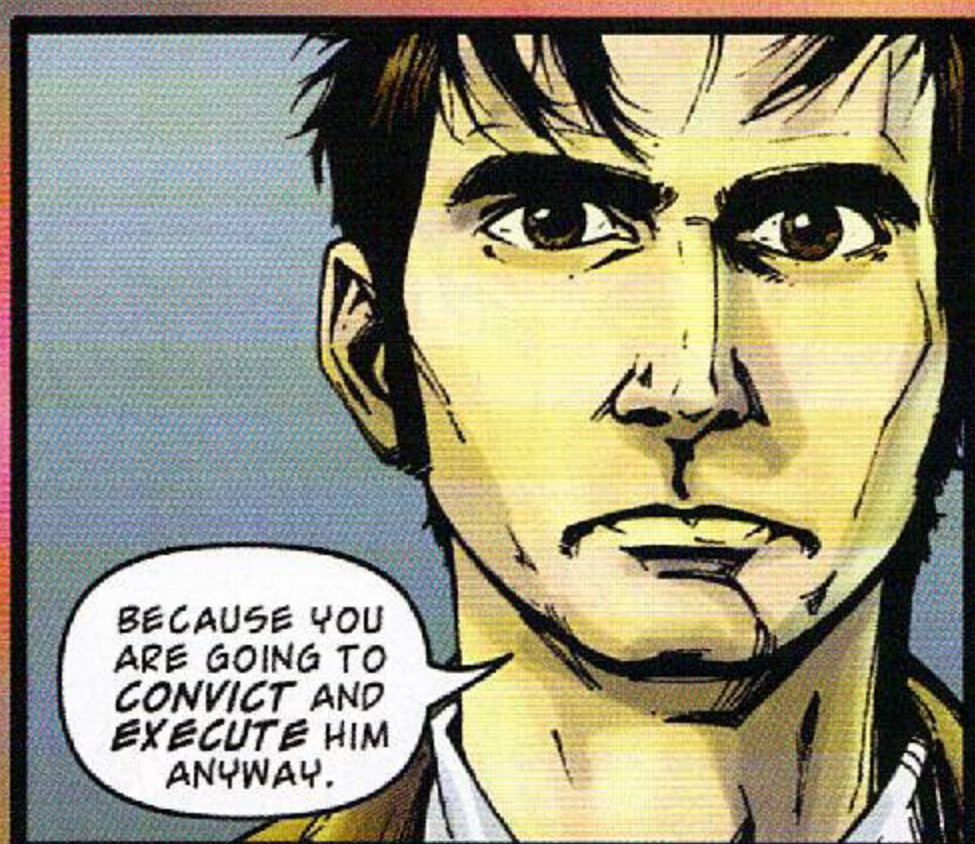








AND WHAT HE
HAS DONE MAY
SAVE MANY
OF YOU.
BUT THAT IS
IRRELEVANT.



BECAUSE YOU
ARE GOING TO
CONVICT AND
EXECUTE HIM
ANYWAY.



WHICHEVER WAY YOU
TRANSLATE IT... TAKE OUT THE
TENSE INCONSISTENCIES... THIS
IS A FULL CONFESSION.

AS ASSIGNED
TO US, IT IS OUR
DUTY TO FOLLOW
THE LAW.



IS THERE A LAST
REQUEST FOR THE
CONDEMNED
MAN?

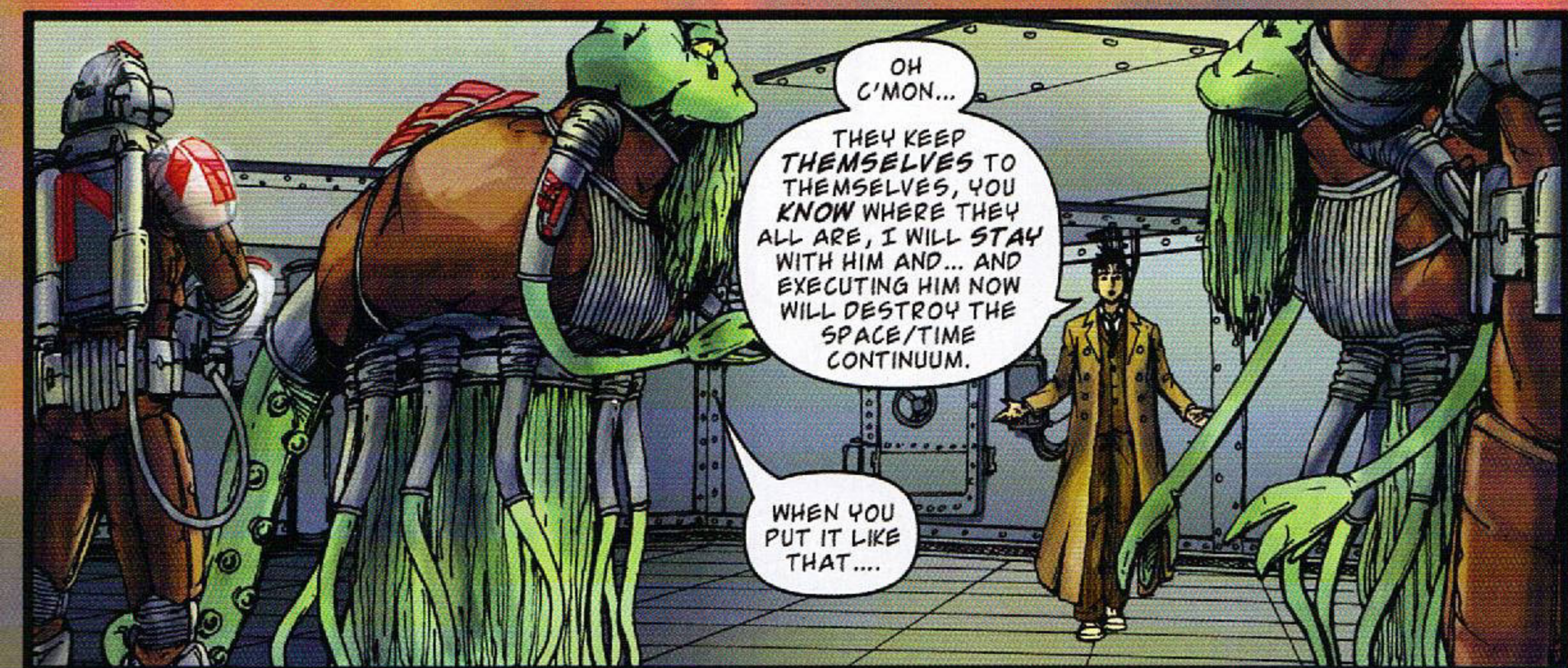
WHAT
IS IT?

A DAY
WITH HIS
FAMILY.



THAT IS
IRREGULAR...

HIGHLY.



OH
C'MON...

THEY KEEP
THEMSELVES TO
THEMSELVES, YOU
KNOW WHERE THEY
ALL ARE, I WILL STAY
WITH HIM AND... AND
EXECUTING HIM NOW
WILL DESTROY THE
SPACE/TIME
CONTINUUM.

WHEN YOU
PUT IT LIKE
THAT....



WHAT IS HE DOING? CAN HE EVEN COMMUNICATE WITH THEM?

I DON'T KNOW. IF HE REALLY IS A TIME LORD, MAYBE HE'S FOUND A WAY.

OR MAYBE HE'S JUST... AT PEACE.



IT'S TIME, DOCTOR.

I KNOW.



HE'S BUT A BABY NOW. OH, THEY LEARN FAST, THE COUNTERS, BORN WITH BASIC LANGUAGE SKILLS, REMARKABLE SPECIES.



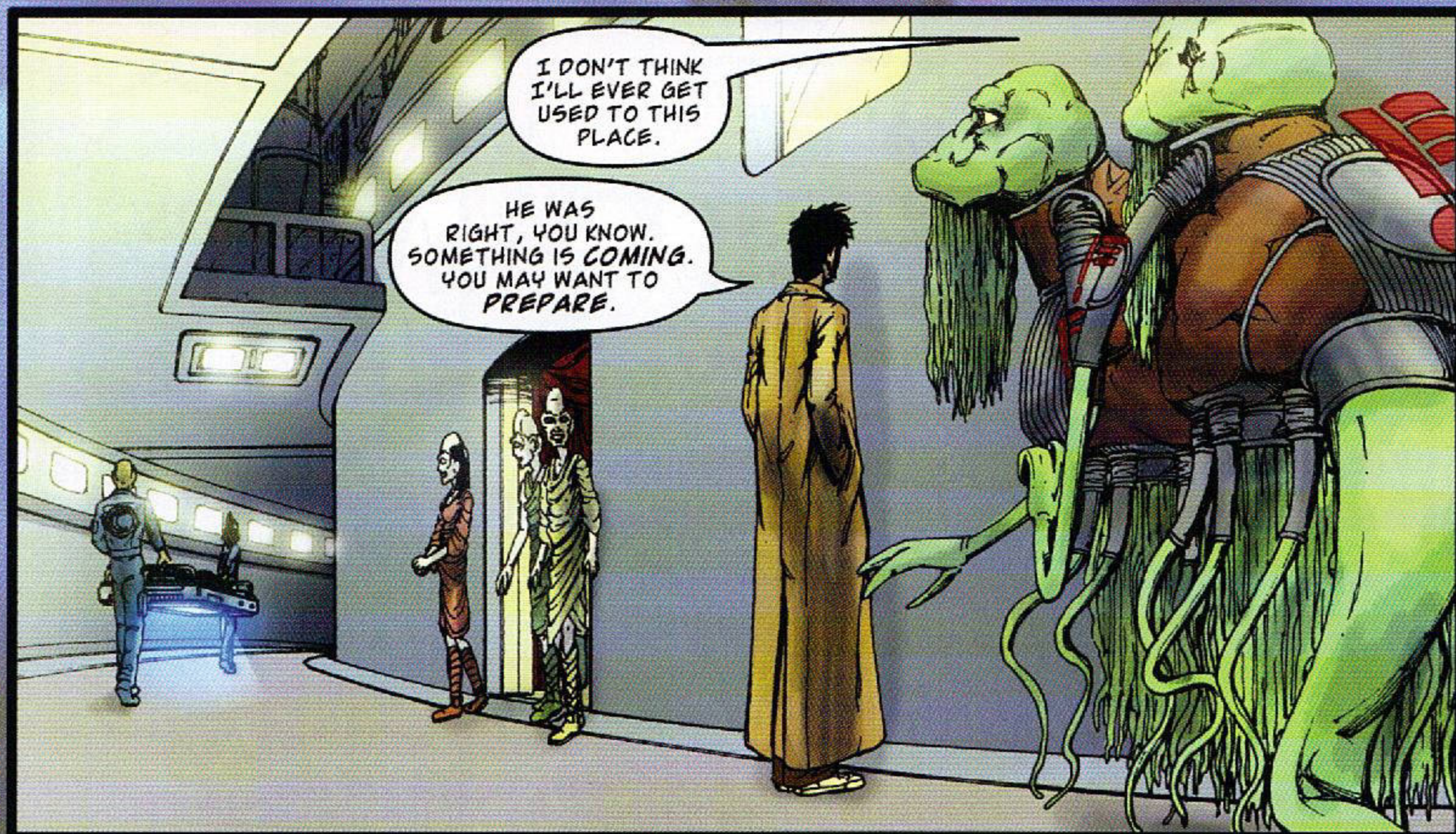
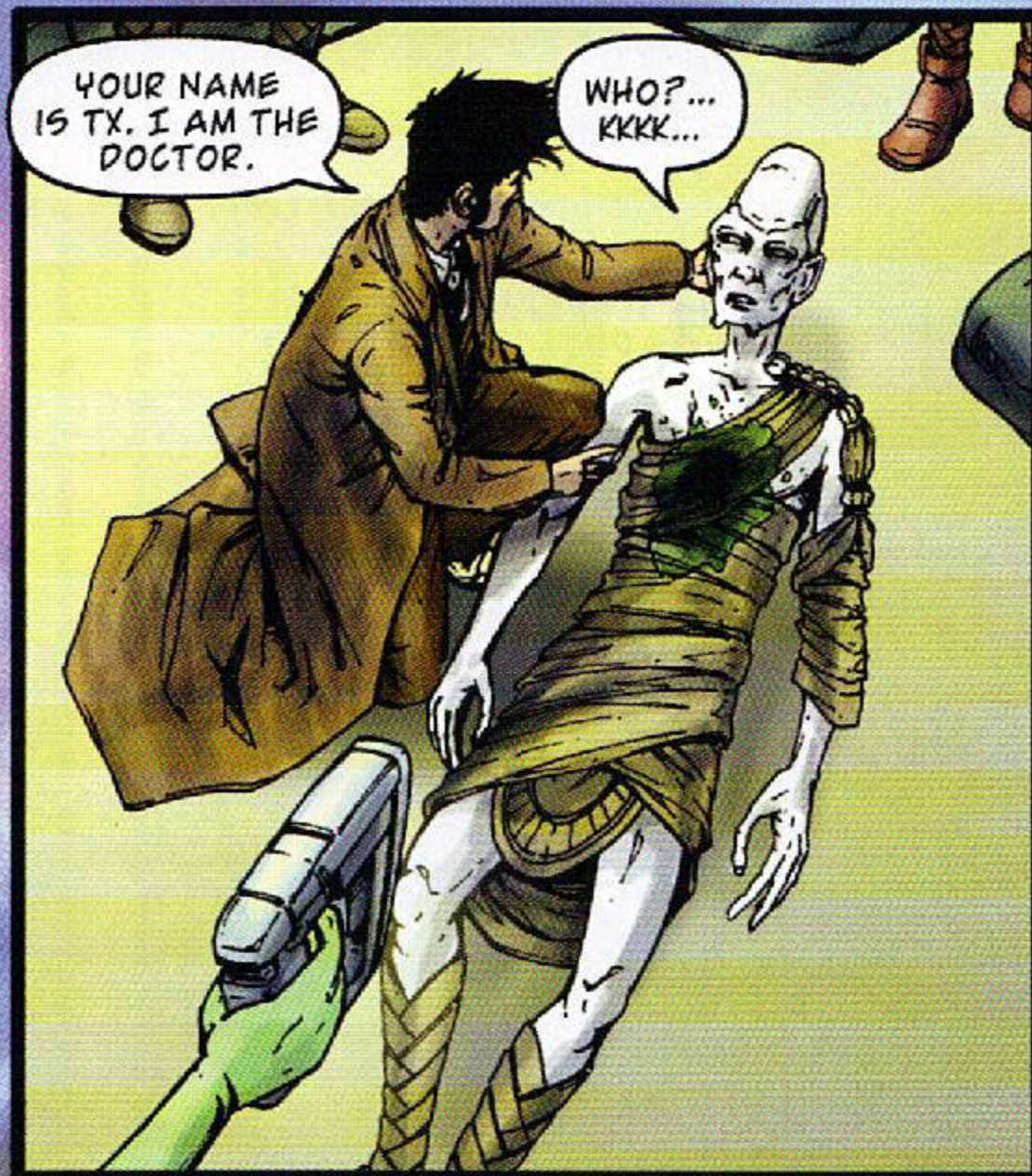
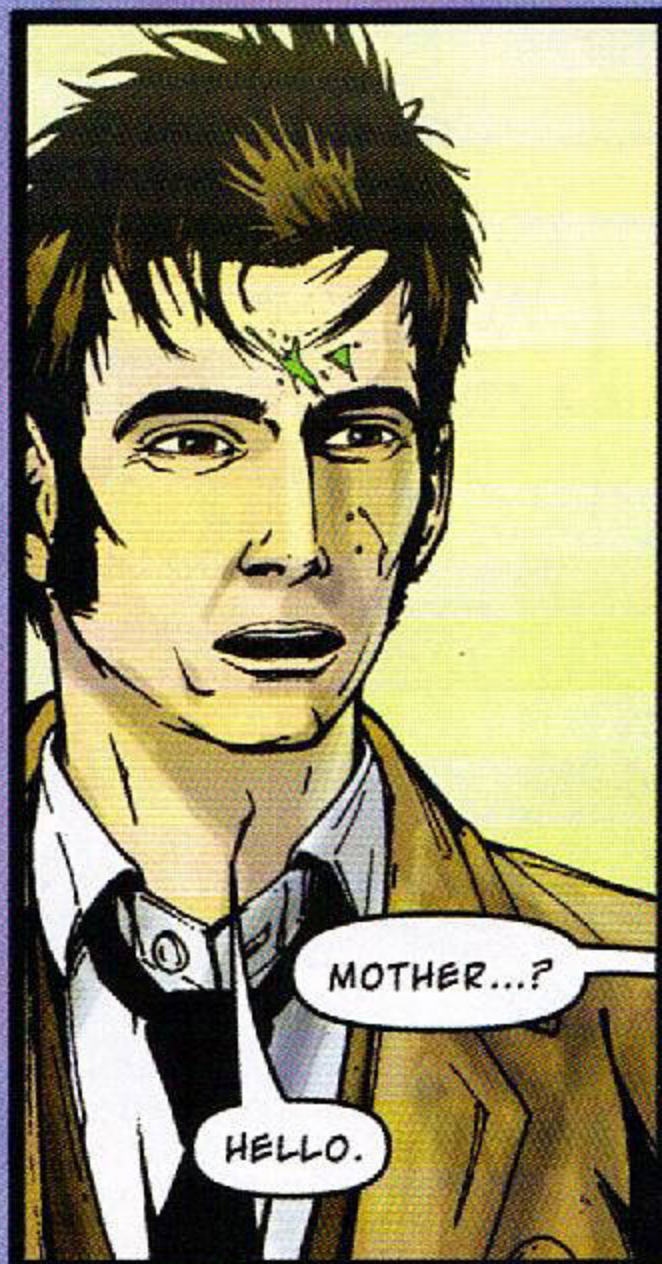
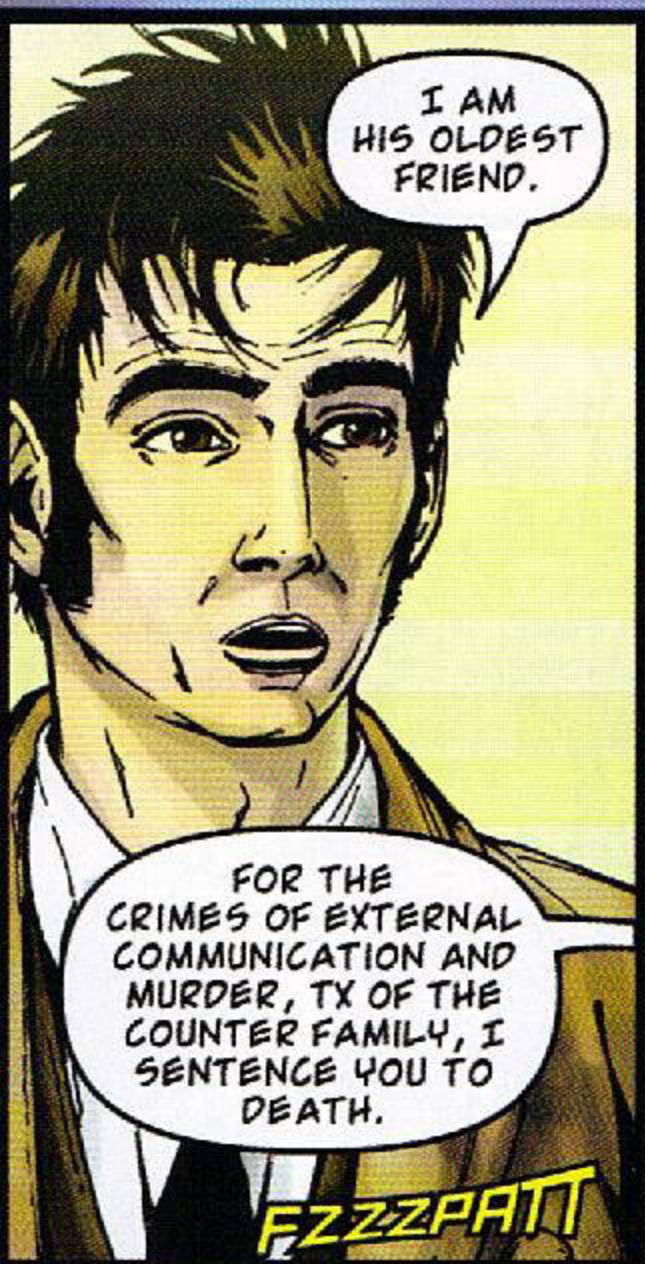
WHY ARE THEY ALL SO... HAPPY... THEY SEEM ECSTATIC.

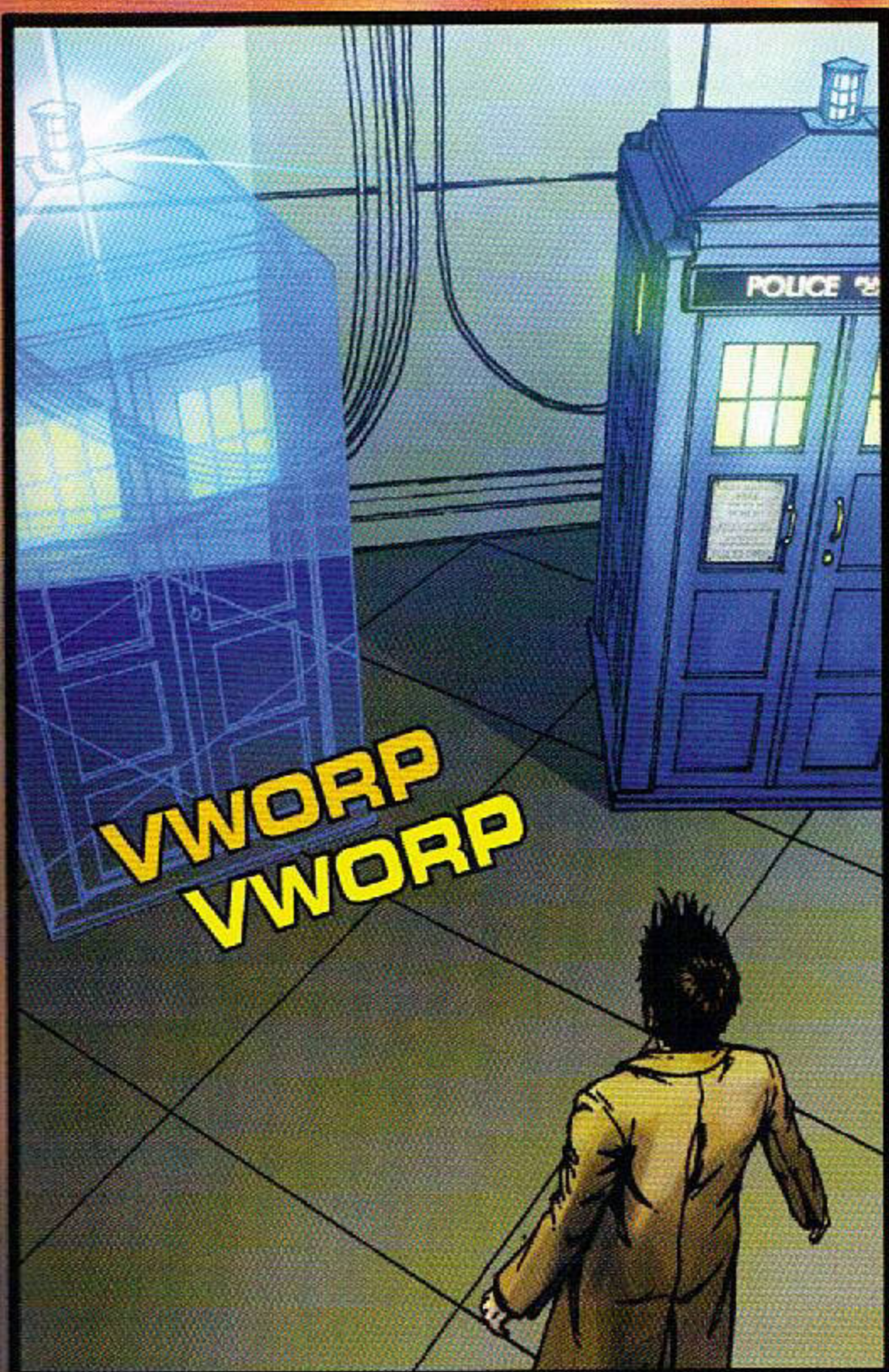
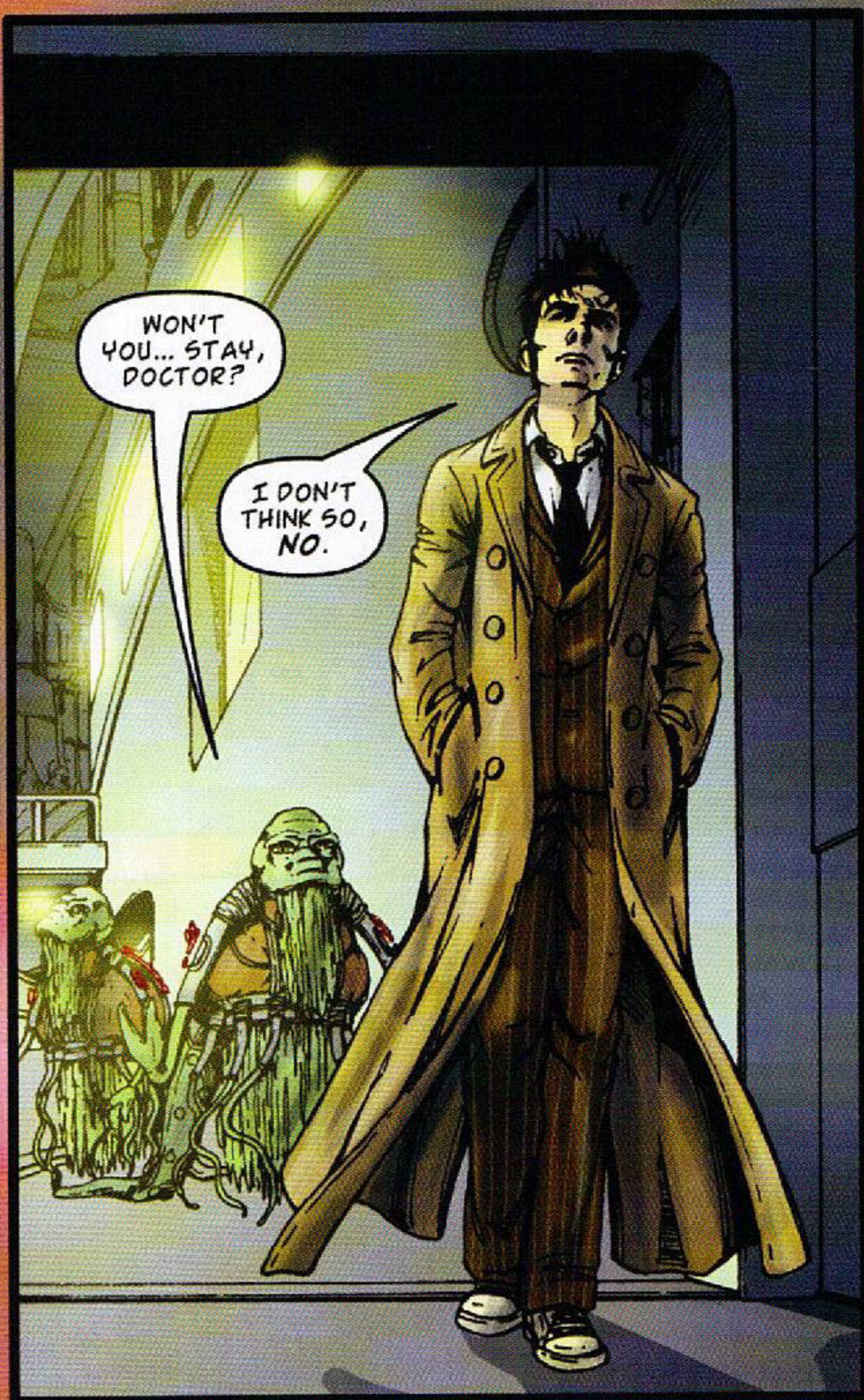
WELL, FOR THE COUNTER FAMILY, THIS IS NOT A SAD TIME, IT'S A TIME OF HAPPINESS, OF...



OF... OF BIRTH?

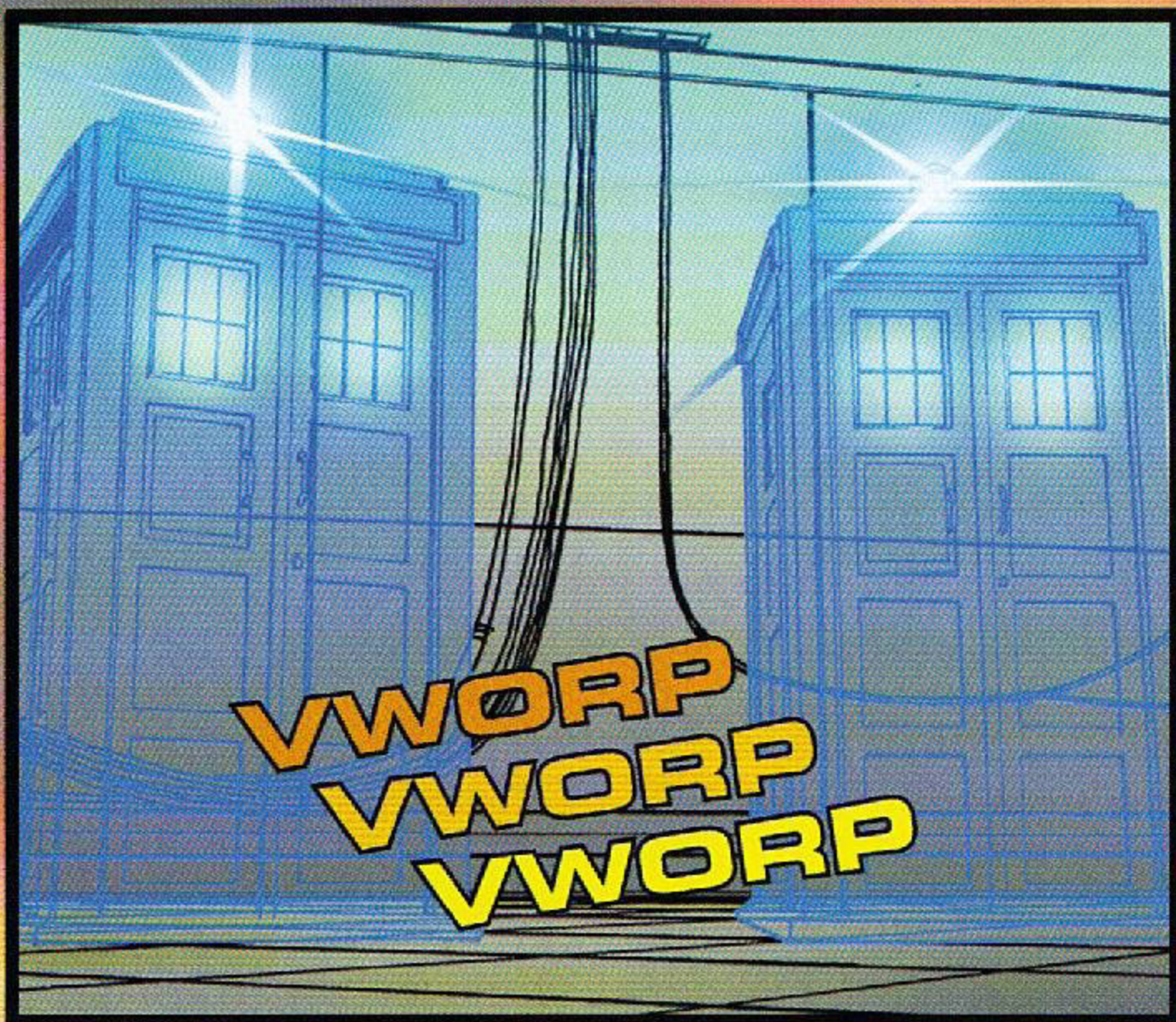
YOU'RE BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND.







JUST GO.



VWORP
VWORP
VWORP



I SAVED THE
DAY. SAW THE BIRTH
OF A REMARKABLE
LIFE FORM. SO WHY
DON'T I FEEL
BETTER?



MAYBE IT'S
JUST A MATTER OF
PERSPECTIVE...



...AND MAYBE
IT'S TIME I FOUND
SOMEONE TO TALK
TO ABOUT IT.

INTERNAL
MONOLOGUE...
IT'S JUST NOT
ME, IS IT?

ALLONS-Y!

THE END...
OR THE BEGINNING.